



Once Upon a Time at NorthHaven
Join us as we journey through some of our favorite children's books. We will also be collecting children's books for ages birth - 10 years to donate to Center for Children & Families, Inc.

Office Hours:

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

Contact Information:

Church Phone: 321-8170
Day School Phone: 321-8170

Emails:

- pamdurso@bwim.info
- bryan@northhavenchurch.net
- kim@northhavenchurch.net
- cheryl@northhavenchurch.net
- sheri@northhavenchurch.net
- linda@northhavenchurch.net
- dayschool@northhavenchurch.net
- mike@northhavenchurch.net
- info@northhavenchurch.net

Website:

www.northhavenchurch.net

Return Service Requested

P.O. Box 72272
Norman, OK 73070



In the Interim by Pam Durso



Untamed Hospitality

My grandmother—we called her Mom—had the gift of hospitality. Her table was always open for one more to feed. Her wallet was always open to those in need. Her heart was always open to the newcomer, the stranger, and the lonely. She baked pies for those she loved. (Her chocolate pie was the very best, but the coconut pie was spectacular too). She gave hugs to all who needed them. She gathered household goods for those who lost everything in a fire.

As a child, I didn't understand that hospitality was a gift. I just knew Mom was pretty special. As an adult, I finally figured out that she couldn't help herself. She gave so easily, so eagerly, so endlessly—because of her great love

of Jesus. She shared because Jesus had shared with her. She

gave because Jesus had given to her. She loved because Jesus had loved her. For Mom, hospitality was simply a natural response to having received so much. But honestly, her hospitality wasn't simple or ordinary. Mom practiced radical hospitality, even "untamed hospitality."

Theologian Elizabeth Newman writes about this "untamed hospitality" and notes that Christian hospitality is more than a well-set table, a pleasant conversation, or grilling with the neighbors. Christian hospitality, she says, is an extension of how we interact with God. As we realize that it is God who has gathered us and invited us to the table, as we grow in understanding that our very lives are a gift from God, we will begin to welcome God as our divine host. And as we are overwhelmed by the love of God, we soon will know of no other option than to be hospitable ourselves. We will discover a burning passion to give everything we are and everything we have back to God. We will share easily, eagerly, and endlessly with our family, our neighbors, and strangers for that is the only possible thing we can do. "Untamed hospitality."

In this season of transition at NorthHaven, what does untamed hospitality look like for us? How easily and eagerly do we share what we have? Give of our time? Offer our help? Initiate that hug? Are we opening our hearts to the newcomers, the strangers, and the lonely? What would change at NorthHaven if together we embraced this practice of untamed hospitality? What would happen if we opened our table, our wallets, and our hearts in response to God's great love of us?

May God's love overwhelm you in beautiful ways this week so that you have no option but to give all that you have and all that you are in response!

Pam Durso



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

JUNE 2018



CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OF OUR STUDENTS GRADUATING IN THE CLASS OF 2018! A FEW PARTICIPATED IN OUR NHSM GRADUATION (PICTURED ABOVE), AND WE ARE EXCITED TO SEE WHAT ALL OF OUR GRADUATING SENIORS WILL DO OVER THE NEXT FEW YEARS!

NHSM HAS AN EXCITING SUMMER AHEAD. ALONG WITH REGULAR ACTIVITIES LIKE SMALL GROUPS, BIBLE STUDIES AND WONDERFUL TIMES OF FELLOWSHIP, WE WILL ALSO BE MAKING A NEW FULL LENGTH MOVIE IN JUNE & GOING TO SUMMER CAMP IN NEW MEXICO IN JULY! IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR FUNDRAISING EFFORTS FOR CAMP, YOUR DONATION WILL HELP A GREAT DEAL.

HERE ARE A FEW WAYS YOU CAN DONATE:

- SPONSOR A STUDENT FOR \$325.
- SIGN UP IN JUNE FOR OUR LAWN CARE FUNDRAISING SERVICE.
- FIND A STUDENT AND OFFER TO CONTRIBUTE ANY DONATION TO THEIR PERSONAL FUNDRAISING.

AS IT STANDS TODAY, \$4,024 WOULD COMPLETE OUR FUNDRAISING AND ALLOW ALL THE STUDENTS TO GO TO CAMP WITHOUT PAYING ANYTHING ADDITIONAL TO WHAT THEY ALREADY HAVE FOR DEPOSITS.

PLEASE SEE BRYAN IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP US LOWER THAT NUMBER :)

FINALLY, IF YOU HAVE EVER THOUGHT ABOUT SERVING IN THE STUDENT MINISTRY, WE WOULD LOVE TO HAVE YOU! JUST REACH OUT TO BRYAN AND HE WILL FIND A PLACE FOR YOU.

ARTicle by Don Schooler

“SUMMERTIME, AND THE LIVIN’ IS EASY...”

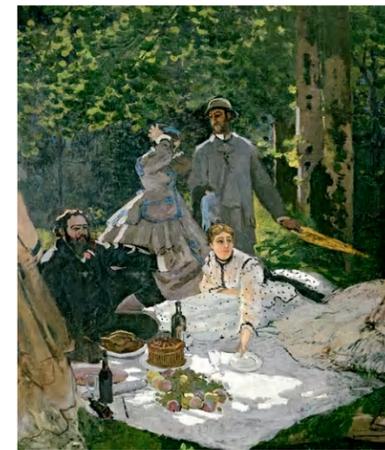
(*Summertime*, “Porgy & Bess,” 1934, George Gershwin and DuBose Heyward)
<https://bit.ly/2IvsC3m> (sung by Ella Fitzgerald & Louis Armstrong)

As I write this ARTicle public schools around the state have not quite finished the school year, although I suspect by the time you’re reading they’ll be done and children will be excitedly enjoying their summers. Good for them. And their teachers. It’s been a long and very peculiar year.

I’m not certain what “summer” means to you, but for me it brings to mind the cracking sound of a wooden bat (or the “ting” of an aluminum bat if you prefer) from a little league baseball game in the nearby park. The smell of lighter fluid and charcoal followed by the wonderful aroma of grilled ‘dogs and burgers. Children giggling and riding their bikes up and down the street, their parents hollering at them that it’s time to “WASH UP FOR DINNER!” Locust singing their monotonous refrains as the sun sets, leaving their shadowy shells on the sides of trees. Sprinkler rainbows in front yards. Reruns on TV. Sitting on porches watching lightning storms at night and spitting watermelon seeds into the yard. Drinking from the garden hose. Swimming in the neighborhood pool (and getting burned every time, well, I did, and still do, anyway). Setting off firecrackers. Cutting grass. Sweating like a pig. And on and on.

That’s nice, right? Yes, I know it gets REALLY HOT and that’s not so much fun, but otherwise Summertime is a good time. And about the time everyone’s had enough of the sweating and high AC bills, fall comes along and replaces the burnt, yellow grass with fiery colored leaves and cooler temperatures.

Now, Artists have been trying to capture that “Summertime Experience” forever, and some have done a really nice job. Here are a few of examples.



□ Claude Monet’s “*The Picnic*” (1885-86). The painting is a homage, of sorts, to Eduard Manet’s “*The Luncheon on the Grass*,” which is a beautiful painting in itself but inappropriate for a church newsletter. Monet made the painting, in part, to distinguish himself from the older Manet, with whom he had been confused due to their very similar names. That dude is rocking that yellow parasol!

perceive the dots as a single shade or hue. And it’s got a monkey on a leash! You gotta love that, right?!



□ Georges Seurat’s “*A Sunday on Grand La Jatte*” (1884-86). This huge painting (7’x10’) is probably Seurat’s most famous work. It’s a beautiful example of pointillism, a technique where the artist applies pure color in small dots and allows the viewers’ eyes to



□ This last one is by a living artist, Kerry James Marshall’s “*Past Times*” (1997). It just sold at Sotheby’s Contemporary Art Auction for \$21.1 M. The serene picnic scene was bought by Sean Combs/Puff Daddy/P. Diddy/Diddy/Puffy/Love/Brother Love on May 16, 2018. [That’s only one (1) guy, btw.] I like it. A lot.

So, whether you choose to celebrate your summer by putting on a three piece suit or several petty coats, grabbing your umbrella, and eating fruit and drinking wine under a giant tree, OR by putting on a stove pipe hat or several petty coats, grabbing your umbrella (what’s with all the umbrellas and no rain?!), and walking your monkey in the park, OR by playing croquet and listening to the radio as dad drives golf balls into unsuspecting water skiers, I hope you have a good time!

And don’t forget to give me a holler when the ‘dogs and burgers are done.

At the Called Church Conference on May 20th the church approved the recommendation from the Executive Committee to consolidate the two worship services for the summer (June through August).

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- 9:00 a.m. - Bible Study
- 10:00 a.m. - The Gathering
- 10:30 a.m. - Worship



During the summer months, the Executive Committee will host multiple listening sessions about our future worship service schedule and our dreams for church growth. Watch for details. A special called church conference will be held on Sunday, September 9, to discuss and vote on the ongoing worship service schedule.



- June 1: Bob Jones
- June 1: Debbie Skeel
- June 2: Don Krause
- June 2: Jill Tran

- June 4: Chad Morris
- June 5: Keith Abbott
- June 6: Gertrude Pearson
- June 7: Kathy Paganoni
- June 10: June Price
- June 10: Lincoln Taylor
- June 10: Susan Benenati
- June 11: Greer Schooler
- June 15: Summer Collins
- June 16: Rachel Youngquist
- June 17: Emma Jensen

- June 18: Justin Youngquist
- June 19: Norma Brown
- June 20: Ryan Bowles
- June 22: Rachael Lester
- June 23: Susan Chambers
- June 24: Nic Taylor
- June 25: Brandi Moore
- June 25: Sheri Ridenour
- June 26: Susan Wilson
- June 29: Helen McGrathe



Who do you know?

By Gala Van Eaton

The Fruit of Mercy

"I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice." *Abraham Lincoln*

Ninety-one years in six hundred words? From that vantage point, this has been the most difficult interview. However, when I told Dan Hobbs it was going to be tough to do justice to his long life in so few words, he replied, "Don't try for justice, just do mercy!"

Dan is of that special breed of southwest Oklahoma people, where he says, "the climate is arid and violent and the people are about the same." He was born in Rocky, Oklahoma on February 3, 1927. The community was named for the store, built out of rocks gathered from the Kiowa reservation. Since Rocky never gained much more than a few hundred people after the first half of the 1900s, Dan moved to Cordell to stay his first year in high school with his grandparents, after which his family also moved there. One of eight children, he was known around town simply as just "one of the Hobbs' kids," and that might have fueled his determination to make a distinct name for himself. He had an outstanding English teacher in high school who planted or nourished the seeds of a full-on writer in Dan.

His family lived a block east of Main and his Dad was Chair of the Deacons at Salem Baptist Church. They read only the King James Bible, did not dance, and played cards only at home if no gambling was involved. Dan says, "When we first come to the faith we are fundamentalists and if we're fortunate, we see fundamentalism as a stage some get over and some don't."

Dan was drafted as a high school senior and at first didn't pass the physical because of a punctured ear drum. He eventually healed and was sent to Fort Smith, then on to Fort Bliss, El Paso, for basic training. Later, he received advanced anti-aircraft training at Biggs Field. He was sent to Japan in 1946 and 1947, 200 miles northeast of Tokyo, to Sendai, to the 9th Quarter Master Corps and performed office work, especially writing letters on behalf of the officers there. He later was sent to San Francisco and was honorably discharged at Fort Ord, California.

He went back to Cordell and began various pursuits: higher education at OBU, working wheat harvest from Texas to South Dakota, and his interest in a girl named Betty. He came back from the summer harvest with four hundred dollars which funded an engagement ring for young Betty. They married in August, 1948 at her parents' home, honeymooned in Amarillo, Texas, and returned to Cordell.

Steve, the first of their five children was born in Cordell but they moved for Dan to begin school again in Goodwell, Oklahoma at Panhandle State College (now University). The president of the college let them live in a small house he owned until more children were born and then Dan managed a Panhandle rooming house. He used the GI bill for school and worked in construction in the summer. He received a BA in English and History and completed a teaching certificate. Thus began a very long and distinguished career in education but always with an emphasis in writing. He completed his M Ed and Ph D at the University of Oklahoma. Along the way he held so many responsible positions, space does not permit listing them.

Dan has written or co-authored almost thirty published pieces/books as well as serving as a member (and interim chancellor) of the Oklahoma State Regents for Higher Education. His network of friends and acquaintances is large and varied. It includes his church family at First Baptist Norman and now, at NorthHaven Church. He retired in 1988 but, you can see the fruit of God's grace and mercy as Dan sings in the NH choir on Sundays, and he sees you. He says he chooses a section of people in the pews as his focus for prayer in worship. He is also a faithful member of the Outer Banks Sunday school class.

His prayers, his years of service to God in his church, his vocation, his family—his life, help tutor us in Christian wholeness as we long for justice but live in enduring mercy. When you see him, ask him about surviving the massive earthquake in Kobe, Japan, or seeing General McArthur come to work in Tokyo!

Kid's Haven

"Children are not a distraction from more important work, they are the most important work." C.S. Lewis

May and my first sermon are over and I did not pass out and hit my head, requiring hospitalization or a funeral. I appreciate all of your kind words and support on May 6th and every other day for that matter. The staff and congregation of NorthHaven is precious to me.

As we move into summer, I am excited about children's camp in Waxahachie, TX. I will be taking a group of three girls for time spent deepening relationships with Christ and having a lot of fun. Madison Waggoner will accompany me as a junior intern, otherwise known as the cool big sister type that will braid your hair. I ask for your prayers during our travels and camp experience (June 7-10). I also would like to thank all of you who have participated in the "Coins for Camp" fundraiser. Your spare change covers travel expenses and necessities such as cotton candy from the snack bar! If you are interested in writing notes to our campers, please email me and I

will give you the names of the kiddos going. Mail call is always a fun time and it is encouraging to receive some love from your church family.

Did you know that Sunday school in KidsHaven is greatly improved by snacks? It is a well-known fact that a cracker in a child's mouth means they are less likely to be talking and more likely to be listening to the lesson. Donations of snacks are always needed and appreciated. Individual servings work best.

Wednesday night Kids Club for the summer will meet on June 6th, June 20th, August 1st, and August 15th to cover childcare for choir practice. Our intern, Hannah Hodge, will be off during the summer. Our summer sermon series, Once Upon a Time at NorthHaven, will kick off on June 10th. During this series parents are encouraged to bring their children age 2 and up into church for the beginning of service. A children's story time will occur after the first hymn. After the story, parents may walk their little ones back to KidsHaven.

I pray that your summer is filled with fun and relaxation.

With love and gratitude,
Kim

SAVE THE DATE!
JULY 29 - AUGUST 1

VBS
"EXPLORING GOD"



"TEAM....What does it mean?"

TEAM – Together Everyone Achieves More! As you most likely know, I am a NASCAR fan. I became a fan around 1997 or so due to accidentally watching a NASCAR recap show where the participants reviewed the races from the weekend. The show was hosted by Allen Bestwick, a sportscaster, who asked questions and solicited input from three current NASCAR drivers. When I began watching the show, the three drivers were Ken Schrader, Johny Benson, and Michael Waltrip. The repartee especially between Ken and Michael is what really 'hooked' me. I didn't know much about NASCAR, but I began to learn from watching the show and soon after, watching the races. When watching an event, whether a race or another sporting event, it helps to know the 'players.' As I learned about the drivers, I also learned about strategy, driving styles, and the uniqueness of the various tracks on the schedule. I learned that the driver was part of a TEAM. At the race, the TEAM consists of a driver, crew chief, and a pit crew made up of a jack man, a fuel man, tire changers and tire carriers. There is also a TEAM back at the race shop, led by a Car Chief, to construct the car. Then there are TEAM owners and sponsors, etc. ALL are part of a big entity with important roles to play.

Currently, my driver of choice is Martin Truex, Jr. I began to follow and pull for Martin about 5-6 years ago. It was quite a struggle with much adversity along the way, but Martin finally achieved that incredible goal of winning the NASCAR Cup Championship in 2017. It was through hard work and the efforts of MANY people this goal was achieved by TEAM 78. Together everyone achieved more. In fact, they achieved the ultimate prize in NASCAR. Each driver knows that even though he or she is the one who is the champion, it truly IS a TEAM effort. Everyone has a job to do. Sometimes, mistakes are made. Often when that happens, a driver and/or crew chief will say, "we win as a team and we lose as

a team." Meaning, everyone makes mistakes and you learn from it and move forward.

TEAM is an important concept. It is one that some have a hard time embracing. For instance, I happen to know this coach who has worked with runners for many years. From listening and observing I have noticed occasionally there's a runner who only runs for himself or herself, not buying into the concept of TEAM. To me, that is sad. They miss out on contributing to something that can be a great accomplishment, choosing instead to focus only on themselves.

As I was growing up, I was continually reminded of the words of St. Francis of Assisi, "it is in giving that we receive." So, let's think about NorthHaven as a TEAM. All of us are important to the ministry of our church. We each have different ways in which we can contribute. Composer Allen Pote said it like this in his choral piece, "Many Gifts, One Spirit,"

"Many gifts, one spirit, many songs, one voice.
Many reasons, one promise,
Many questions, one choice. O God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above.
In our differences unite us in the circle of your love.
O God, remind us we are not alone.
Though we move on different pathways,
we are moving to your throne.
Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand. We are members of one family, growing strong by joining hands."

As we continue to navigate this new journey together, searching God's direction for our church, may we do so in unity with guidance from above. May we be patient with one another, showing grace and love to each other. Sometimes, this is a challenge! May we accept the challenge and walk in unity of the Spirit. For....

Together Everyone Achieves More!

Love and grace,
Cheryl