



*Make your Trunk or Treat plans! Dust off your best Chili recipes!
Come join the fun! Prize for best traditional and non-traditional chili!*

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

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

Emails:
jakob@northhavenchurch.net
kim@northhavenchurch.net
cheryl@northhavenchurch.net
sheri@northhavenchurch.net
kayleigh@northhavenchurch.net
dayschool@northhavenchurch.net
mike@northhavenchurch.net
info@northhavenchurch.net

Website:
www.northhavenchurch.net

Return Service Requested

North Haven
P.O. Box 722772
Norman, OK 73070



Letters to My Church

"How are you?" I asked as I passed the woman standing outside the hospital. What I meant to say was hello, which doesn't require an answer.



Jakob Topper
Senior Pastor

"I'm not doing great," she replied to the back of my head as I walked away. After visiting a church member, I still had my name tag on which says I'm a pastor. This woman could have thought I worked at the hospital or maybe she just needed to speak with a pastor. Begrudgingly, I turned around and walked back to her.

"I'm sorry to hear that," I said. "What's going on?"

"I lost my grandma today," she replied, clearly shaken. "Right in there," as she pointed to the hospital behind her.

"I'm so sorry," I said, "and I'm sorry I flippantly asked how you were doing and walked away without an answer. That was wrong."

"That's ok. I lost my grandma, and I don't know where to go for help."

"Have you tried the chaplain's office?" I suggested.

"No, but I'm not sure how they could help," she answered with a puzzled look.

"They are here to help us all process our grief during these difficult times," I explained.

Her face twisted in a

strange expression I didn't understand as she retorted, "look, I just lost my grandma..." Just then, in the middle of her sentence, a nurse walked out of the hospital doors behind her leading a woman who looked to be in her 80's.

"Jackie, where the heck did you go?! I've been looking all over for you!" the elderly woman popped off.

"Grandma! I didn't know which floor your appointment was on!" she yelled, as she ran over to her.

"I'm glad you found your grandma," I mumbled as understanding finally sank in.

Note to self: don't ask people at hospitals how they are unless I really want to know.

As I drove back to the church, I reflected on how many assumptions I carried into that conversation. Most of them weren't unwarranted assumptions given the context and my experience at hospitals, but they created a barrier to communication and understanding nonetheless. I wonder how often this happens, and I don't even know it?

Surely, this doesn't just affect my relationships with others, but my relationship with God also. How many assumptions do I make based on my experience of life as a straight white man living in 21st century Oklahoma that I bring to my relationship to God without even being aware of it? It colors the way I read the Bible, and understand each of its words. It influences where I see myself in its stories, and who I think the good and the bad guys are.

I can only pray God will send a metaphorical grandma out to find me and bring me understanding of my assumptions.



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

Please join us for the
WOMEN'S WEEKEND ADVENTURE
 Balance Due October 1st
 25-26 OCTOBER 2019
 SULLIVANT CENTER
 LAKE THUNDERBIRD

Join us on the adventure at the Sullivant Retreat Center at Lake Thunderbird, 601 84th Ave. SE in Norman, for a weekend getaway to refresh and renew yourself in the fellowship of others. There will be activities, music, and quiet time. You may choose your level of involvement. Brochures with more information are available in the atrium. If you have pre-registered for our NorthHaven Women's Adventure, please **pay your balance by October 1st**. You can pay at the Women's Adventure table in the atrium or give your money to Joanie Abbott, Susan Wilson or Ruth Lawyer. **If you haven't pre-registered, it's not too late to sign up and join us on this fun adventure!**



Calling all Oklahoma Women in Ministry

If you are interested, or want more information about OK BWIM (Oklahoma Baptist Women in Ministry), contact Kim Divelbiss, Cheryl Tarter or Sheri Ridenour.

OK BWIM Gathering
 Saturday, 2/22/20 @ FBC, OKC



ENDING HUNGER
 ONE STEP AT A TIME
CROP HUNGER WALK

Sunday, 10/20/19
 2:00 p.m.

Support our walkers!
 See names in the atrium.

Wrapped in Love

NHC Prayer Shawl Ministry
 Welcome women, men & youth!
 Bring a friend if you like!

No experience necessary.
 We can teach you to knit, crochet or quilt.
 Contact Helen McGrath if you are interested.

October Mission Project

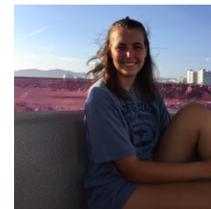
In connection with the Crop Walk, NorthHaven will be collecting items for Food & Shelter for Friends for those they help. A list of items can be found on their website, <http://www.foodandshelterinc.org/get-involved#volunteer> or in the atriums.



- October 4: Ingrid Lockett
- October 4: Troy Wilson
- October 5: Doug Crabb

- October 5: Brant Elmore
- October 5: Tanner Randall
- October 7: Beth Taylor
- October 9: Phillip Crawford
- October 11: David Taylor
- October 17: Deborah Hicks
- October 18: Amber Crawford
- October 19: Norma Stephenson
- October 21: Judy Warren

- October 23: Lynndi Cox
- October 24: Terry Hill
- October 24: Keely Robertson
- October 27: David Payne
- October 29: Ben Gattis
- October 30: Sandra Tucker



We're delighted to welcome Kayleigh Latimer to our NorthHaven family. Kayleigh joined our staff in September as the Student Ministry Coordinator, and is already showing great aptitude for the job and a heart for our students. Kayleigh is a sophomore at OU studying biology. She is a Texas native, hailing from a reconciling United Methodist Church in Houston. We're so grateful she answered the call, and we anticipate a bright future for our student ministry as it begins rebuilding with Kayleigh at the helm coordinating a great team of teachers and volunteers.

Youth & Parent Meeting
 Sunday, 10/6 @ 9am
 In the Gnosis SS Room
 2nd floor of the Price Bldg.
 A time to...
vision, calendar & covenant.

