

We will not be meeting for worship through May.

The Executive Committee will be meeting at the end of May to determine when we can resume meeting in person for worship.

Join us for virtual worship at 10:30 every Sunday on Facebook Live and YouTube.

**STAY SAFE!**

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

**Contact Information:**  
 Church Phone: 321-8170  
 Day School Phone: 321-8170  
 Emails:  
[jakob@northhavenchurch.net](mailto:jakob@northhavenchurch.net)  
[cheryl@northhavenchurch.net](mailto:cheryl@northhavenchurch.net)  
[sheri@northhavenchurch.net](mailto:sheri@northhavenchurch.net)  
[kayleigh@northhavenchurch.net](mailto:kayleigh@northhavenchurch.net)  
[dayschool@northhavenchurch.net](mailto:dayschool@northhavenchurch.net)  
[mike@northhavenchurch.net](mailto:mike@northhavenchurch.net)  
[info@northhavenchurch.net](mailto:info@northhavenchurch.net)  
[pkduncan08@gmail.com](mailto:pkduncan08@gmail.com)  
[kaitlynknapp87@gmail.com](mailto:kaitlynknapp87@gmail.com)

Website:  
[www.northhavenchurch.net](http://www.northhavenchurch.net)

Return Service Requested

North Haven  
 P.O. Box 72272  
 Norman, OK 73070



### Letters to My Church



Jakob Topper  
Senior Pastor

Last night (4/28) the Executive Committee met virtually and discussed the governor's and the mayor's respective plans to reopen the state and our city.

The governor gives churches permission to reopen on May 3 provided they follow stringent social distancing guidelines, but Mayor Clark does not allow churches in Norman to open until at least May 15. Even then, churches may reopen only if certain criteria continues to be met

like more Covid-19 testing and a declining trajectory of daily cases and deaths.

After discussing with the Executive Committee, we unanimously decided that planning to reopen in May would be too soon. Given that our church is home to so many people that are especially vulnerable to this disease, we voted to err on the side of caution and remain online-only for the month of May.

The Executive Committee will meet again toward the end of May to discuss plans moving forward when we have more data to process. For example, how did other churches reopen safely? Were there any outbreaks tied to churches? We don't want to be the test case; we want to learn from the successes and missteps of others. The cost is too high to do otherwise.

I miss you, church. The pain of loss can show us how precious things really are. We've learned that we can adapt and preserve our identity as a church and a worshipping body even in adverse circumstances. We've also learned just how essential being together really is. Forgive me for ever taking a moment of our time together for granted.

To the ire of some parents, I was an advocate for letting our children run wild in the Price Atrium on Wednesday nights when things were normal. It's a big room with lots of empty space without breakables in the way. Like a flock of birds the kids would swarm in and out, back and forth across the room, chirruping loudly as they went with their laughter and delighted squeals.

I miss that cacophony. Today it's the sound of my grief, but one day it will be the sound of our liberation. We'll listen to it together again on that day, and on that first Wednesday back I'm sorely tempted to give all of your children air horns and clappers.

I miss preaching and hearing Rick Skeel's laughter boom from behind me and turning just in time to see his chest bouncing with each laugh. All because he's the only one of you lot to appreciate the stellar joke I just made. (Ryan Bowles is a great courtesy laughter too). I miss watching Sheri and Alyssa find each other's line of sight and role their eyes at the same super clever joke.

I miss Keith Abbott complimenting my scruffy beard. We all know he can't really mean it. I mean, you've seen my beard, if it can even be called that. But that only makes him more endearing to us all, doesn't it?

I miss Mary Ann Wilson forcing Susan to sit with her on the very front row of the church so that she doesn't miss a thing, and hearing Edith Duncan shout the lyrics to each song at the top of her lungs. I miss watching Lincoln Taylor and Lucas Knapp go sit with Ian on his first day to visit NHC.

(Continued on page 2.)



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

(Continued from page 1.)



I miss watching Hadley climb up in Bethany Dorean's lap the moment she sees her and hearing Bethany ask me if Hadley slept well last night. I can hear Bethany in my mind singing, "and the trees of the field will clap their hands."

There's a lot of grief in our community right

now. A lot of grief in the world, and it must be attended to with gentleness and care. Some of these griefs will find a natural remedy one day when we meet again, but not all of them. It may be a long time before we see Bethany Dorean and Bob Stephenson again in Glory. Even when we all return to worshiping in the sanctuary, we won't get back the time together we've lost.

Now is a time for grieving. For mourning things lost and giving thanks for the opportunity to learn how precious they are to us. But remember, we neither mourn nor grieve as those without hope.

Jakob Topper



- May 1: Michael Robison
- May 2: Oma Gean Geis
- May 5: Addie Shelton
- May 5: Edith Duncan
- May 6: Isabella Fullbright
- May 8: Makenna Morris
- May 10: Nick Whitacker
- May 12: Abigail Pratt
- May 15: Vien Tran
- May 16: Jeffery Knapp

- May 18: Emily Miller
- May 21: Hannah Hodge
- May 26: Chad Duncan
- May 26: Scott Paganoni
- May 29: John Dorean
- May 30: Grayson Schooler
- May 30: Randy Ridenour



How have these days of sheltering, distancing, and mask wearing affected you? Without realizing it was happening, my pace has slowed. Clay says I have fixed more meals in these past weeks than I have in our entire married life! Well, he may have a point. These days have not been without challenge, however. Most likely these days have caused us all to have some good days and some not so good days, often feeling like a roller coaster of emotions. For those who are having to teach their kiddos, we offer up many prayers.

This time has offered us opportunity to contemplate what is important. Recently I listened to a Getty, Getty, & Kendrick song I was not familiar with titled "My Worth Is Not In What I Own." Check out the whole song performed by the Getty band featuring Fernando Ortega in the following link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MV5x6M38ea8>. A couple verses are as follows:

"My worth is not in what I own, Not in the strength of flesh and bone,  
But in the costly wounds of love At the Cross.

I will not boast in wealth or might, Or human wisdom's fleeting light,  
But I will boast in knowing Christ At the Cross."

Maybe this time has shown what we can get by without as well as what things we REALLY miss! For me, I miss seeing people in person! I also miss visiting certain coffee shops.... I miss collaboration with the wonderful instrumentalists and choir members of NHC as we prep for worship. I miss YOU! I have also tried to use this time to look for and listen to God. It has been a time of re-evaluation in so many ways. The song mentioned above came at me once more as I experienced some disappointment from not receiving some 'things' that should have come to my brother and me, but due to broken families, they did not. Immediately, I was reminded that my worth is not in what I own. We still have some wonderful memories we can hold on to. Things are just things. I am grateful that I found this wonderful contemporary hymn to speak to me.

In closing, please read this poem by Brenda Livingston Bradley from her book, "A Few Minutes More."

SOMETIMES WE WAIT

Sometimes we wait a step short of long enough, only half expecting  
our worries to dispel,  
our prayers to be answered,  
our hearts to be filled.

We turn away blinded by the world in our eyes, before grace has a chance to walk in.  
Be still and know.

Inhale God's peace in the wind breathing into our souls cool refreshment and rest.  
Be still and wait.

See God hold out a sweet comb of honey, dripping with mercy and blessings.  
Be still and taste.

Hear now God's song of joy to the world, sounding from the open-beaked throats of birds.  
Be still and listen.

May we remember these lessons in waiting and listening as we move into future days of slowly returning to 'normal.' However, may our 'normal' be forever changed to allow us to be vigilant in our appreciation of one another and this life we have been called to live.

Waiting, listening,  
Cheryl



These are trying times. As if the health and money scares are not enough, we add to these the isolation, loneliness, and even the possibility of depression that shelter in place creates and exacerbates. Talking to people you can trust about your fears and anxiety is more important than ever.

But the thought of opening up about the deeper things of life can seem paralyzing in itself. Before I formed the coaching company, Directions, in partnership with NorthHaven Church, I had a business called Listening Post. The idea was that sometimes we do not need a long-term formal relationship with a therapist or coach. Sometimes we need a listening ear that can be confidential and trusted. Right now we are in what professionals call an "emergent crisis." Everyday we are facing new dilemmas. Having to deal with so many decisions at the same time can be overwhelming.

I want to introduce you to a word that may be new to some of you. It is called decompression. In my work I have short conversations everyday with health care professionals who need to unload or unwind about the things they see and feel. Most of the time those conversations last fifteen or twenty minutes. Believe it or not those can be therapeutic conversations.

Here is my offer. I would be honored to talk to any of you for fifteen minutes or for an hour. You may need some decompression time or you may decide a longer- term process is helpful. Whether you need to decompress or form a long- term coaching relationship, I want to be a listening post for you. There will be a fee if you can afford it. I will charge \$1.00 a minute. Typically a mental health care professional will charge \$60-\$100 for a fifty- minute session. I will offer sessions that last at least fifteen minutes. During the pandemic all sessions will be held on Zoom or by phone. Even after we begin to open up you may decide you like Zoom or the phone. I want to make something very clear. I am not a licensed therapist. If you need long- term mental health care, please speak up. The church has resources and will assist you in finding that person.

Whether you need to decompress or form a coaching relationship, I want to be a safe space for you. Let's talk. Phone # 405-760-1580. chaplainbum62@gmail.com. Find me on facebook under "Directions."

Mike Bumgarner  
Directions,  
a DBA in partnership with NorthHaven Church



# we've got plans!

**WE KNOW IT'S BEEN TOUGH AT TIMES.....**

**BUT WE ARE HERE FOR YOU AND ALL YOUR KIDDOS. SUNDAY MORNINGS, MIDDLE OF THE DAY DRAGS, AND WEDNESDAY NIGHTS...THESE ARE ALL TIMES YOU CAN LOOK TO OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR HELP AND SUPPORT!**

NOT CONNECTED TO FACEBOOK?  
EMAIL US:  
PAMELA@NORTHHAVENCHURCH.NET  
OR  
KAITLYN@NORTHHAVENCHURCH.NET

## WEDNESDAY spark\*

Join us virtually on Wednesdays for spark\*, a CBF children's program. We are learning about different countries and the important work CBF missionaries are doing there.

spark\* encourages:

- Wonder at God's creativity in our world
- Growth in loving and caring for others
- Discovering the gift's God has given AND MUCH MORE!!

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

Zoom Meeting at 11:30 AM

Anyone is welcome on our Sunday morning Zoom meeting! For the month of May we will be learning about Ruth and Naomi!

If you would like to join us, let us know!

## Ruth & Naomi

**Unexpected kindness - Upended assumptions**

<b>THE BOOK OF RUTH</b>	<b>FAMINE IN THE LAND OF BREAD</b>	<b>WHEAT IN THE FIELD</b>	<b>PAY IT FORWARD</b>
Students will learn the importance of the names in the book of Ruth.	Students learn about the causes of famine and address hunger in their own community.	Students experiment with wheat through cooking.	Students inspire acts of kindness.



Hello from NorthHaven Day School! My how we are missing everyone: children, families, staff, and our daily routines! We are missing chapel time with Pastor Jakob too and seeing everyone's beautiful smiles! While we know it is the safest choice for NHC to be closed during the Covid-19 Pandemic, it has been so hard for all of us to be away from our students. You all have become our family and please know that you are missed dearly.



Given the closure of our program and the need to prepare for the future to reopen, we have started a GoFundMe Campaign for NorthHaven Day School. It is called NorthHaven Dayschool COVID 19 Relief and can be found at

[https://www.gofundme.com/f/northhaven-dayschool-covid-19-relief?utm\\_source=customer&utm\\_medium=copy\\_link&utm\\_campaign=p\\_cp+share-sheet](https://www.gofundme.com/f/northhaven-dayschool-covid-19-relief?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_campaign=p_cp+share-sheet)

All donations received are tax deductible and will be utilized for maintaining staff salaries; paying utilities; and the basic needs when we reopen. We graciously thank you in advance, for considering donating to our school!

With that said, rest assured that NorthHaven Day School staff are working diligently to plan and prepare for the day that we can reopen to service each of you. While we are currently closed for the remainder of the school year, we are still planning and working towards our summer program. As of right now, NHDS is taking things day by day and more information will be coming in May about our 2020 Summer Program.

We humbly ask that you please continue to pray for NHDS; our staff; children and their families, as we plan accordingly.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, NorthHaven Day School can be reached on our facebook page at NorthHaven Day School or through email at [dayschool@northhavenchurch.net](mailto:dayschool@northhavenchurch.net)

Here are a few fun activities that could help cure some boredom:

- Obstacle Course.
- Water Balloons.
- Collect Bugs.
- Study a spider web.
- 3-legged races.
- Wash the dog.
- Wash the car.
- Paint outdoors.

Rachel Youngquist and J'Nell Lane Day School Interim Co-Directors



*"We love your hugs so much, that we are hugging each of you in our dreams daily!"*

ARTICLE by Don Schooler

BUH-BYE, MIA. YOU'LL BE MISSED.



I enjoy grocery shopping. I know a bunch of you will think that's odd, but, you know, I'm a little odd.

As a kid my Dad and I would go grocery shopping every Saturday and it was nice spending the time together. We'd talk about things that had happened at school during the week, or whatever else was going on. We'd tell jokes that Mom would've disapproved – not TOO bad, after all Pops was a deacon at our church and I was, well, I was afraid to tell too raunchy jokes to me Dad. Lots of times he'd let me and my brothers pick out fun cereals or snacks, and comic books or trading cards. It was just a little "guy time." It was fantastic.

Fast forward a few years and I'm thinking about college and what I'd like to major in. No surprise, I was drawn to the visual arts. I didn't think a degree in fine arts was practical – I've got a lot of creative, dreamer, right-brain, but a fair amount of conservative, practical left-brain as well. So, the left-brain won out and I decided Marketing was the way to continue to use my love for art without starving. (And come on, who wouldn't want to be Don Draper – don't think about it too much.) (BTW, for those who don't know, and jumping ahead a few chapters, I ended up with a BA in Political Science, minor in Psychology at OSU, and a Law Degree from OU – yeah, things changed a bit, but that's another story for another day.)

That's about the time I started paying closer attention to the packaging and marketing of products at stores. Some of it is pretty obvious – a McDonald's Happy Meal had a smile printed on it at one time, and cereals have cartoon characters not because they're "GRRRRREEAAAATTTTT!" or because you'll go "COCO!" if you don't get your Cocoa Puffs, but because marketers know that makes them appealing to kids. That's why both of those items have games printed on the boxes and toys inside too. While other marketing is more subtle - the feminine shape of a Coca-Cola bottle or the "crooked smile" on the Amazon logo that doubles as an arrow connecting "a" to "z".

So, with that, I was shocked that I missed a minor brouhaha that occurred this past week until I saw it trending on Twitter and this past week's SNL's "Weekend Update."

The Native woman on the Land O'Lakes butter box has been removed. Her name is "Mia" and she's been on the box since 1928. And now, with adjusted sensitivities, the company has decided it's no longer appropriate to use her image on their product. The background remains, but Mia is gone.

Now, I'm not interested in arguing whether the decision is a proper response to cultural appropriation concerns or political correctness run amuck, which is why it captured the public's attention in the first place, but those who know me well likely know where I fall on that dispute. No, I want to talk about the artist behind Mia.

His name was Patrick DesJarlait, and he is an Obijwe artist and part of the Red Lake Nation in Minnesota. He was employed by the advertising agency, Campbell-Mithun, which is in Minneapolis where Land O'Lakes is located. The advertising company was approached to redesign the butter maiden Mia, and DesJarlait was employed to do the work. It was the third time it had been redesigned since 1928, and has remained on the packaging for the last seven decades.

DesJarlait was intentional in his redesign, adding Native characteristics to her face, and traditional Obijwe floral motifs to her dress. The landscape, which remains on the packaging, shows recognizable landmarks from the Red Lake Nation – the Red Lake and an area known as the Narrows, where the upper and lower Red Lake meet.

So, Mia may be gone, but Native references remain, although subtly. Oh, and I should also mention that DesJarlait also designed the Hamm's Bear. Look it up, and while you're at it, look up DesJarlait. He was a prolific artist with more than 300 paintings hanging in private collections and museums.

AND the next time you're at the grocery store take a moment to consider the marketing for your favorite products. There just might be an interesting story behind the Pringles mustachioed man. (Actually there is - he was designed by Fredric Baur, his name is "Julius Pringle," and his creator was buried in a Pringle can. That's a true story people!)

Until next time, keep on making stuff and looking for the story in the seemingly ordinary.