



THANKSGIVING FOOD BASKETS

FOR CANTON & WATONGA

COLLECTING SUN. 11/1/20 - SUN. 11/15/20



LIST OF ITEMS FOR THE NATIVE AMERICAN CHURCHES IN CANTON & WATONGA:

- Canned hams that do not need refrigeration
- Large (5 lb) bags of corn meal
- Large bags of flour
- Large bags of rice
- Canned sweet potatoes (yams)
- Cans of corn and green beans
- Ground Coffee
- Bag of candy for the children

COLLECTION LOCATIONS:

Bring to church on Sunday

Drop off location under the overhang at the main entrance (someone will check regularly to bring items inside).

Church office (call ahead to make sure someone is available).

Questions? Call or text Keith Abbott (Missions Committee Chair) at 405.833.2562 or Sheri Ridenour at 405.321.8170.

Office Hours:

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

Contact Information:

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

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Website:

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Return Service Requested

P.O. Box 722772
Norman, OK 73070



Letters to My Church



Jakob Topper
Senior Pastor

How long, oh Lord, how long?

Those are the words of the prophet Habakkuk as he tries to make sense of the world after the Israelite's catastrophic defeat at the hands of the Babylonians. How long, oh Lord, will you let injustice go unpunished? How long, oh lord, will the righteous suffer?

How long indeed.

We haven't been together in the sanctuary or within 6 ft of one another since early March. How long, oh lord, how long?

Even if we were to return to the sanctuary tomorrow, we'd be unable to sing, sit near each other, or pass our love to one another through hugs and handshakes. Like the Israelites who erected synagogues in Babylon, we've carried soundboards and speakers onto our lawn to worship even in exile. God is with us even now, even here, but exile is not the promised land. How long, oh Lord, how long?

It may be awhile longer yet.

We cannot know what the future holds, but we can know who holds our future. And we must draw near to God, and draw strength from the Spirit for the journey ahead.



That's why I've decided to take some time away to recenter myself in Christ, reprioritize my family, and let the Spirit recharge me.

Like so many of us, I've known the pandemic pace and workload was unsustainable in the long run. I told myself that if I'll just endure a little longer, then things will get better- things will return to normal. But it's become obvious that if I'm waiting on the world around me to get better in order for the world within me to improve, then the wait may be too long.

So I'm stepping away for the first four Sundays of November to refocus on my personal walk with Christ and my family. I will be back for the first Sunday in Advent, and have arranged for you to experience some wonderful preachers between now and then.

Oh how grateful I am to be at a church who loves, affirms, and supports me on this journey. Rarely does a first time pastor survive a year like this, yet I have because of your love for me and for my family.

All across the country I'm watching ministers resign from their churches. Some of my heroes who I assumed would die in the pulpit, are leaving to sell insurance. And, the rate of clergy suicide is through the roof. After my article on suicidal ideation in clergy was published in August, I've officiated five virtual memorial services for clergy across the country who have taken their own lives.

(Continued on page 2.)

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



SUNDAY SCHOOL ZOOMS

If outdoor church is cancelled, don't fret!
 Check your emails on Saturday for the 10:30 zoom link for that Sunday!
 We will "play" and teach your kids while you get to worship in "Big" church on Facebook live!

Talk to Us!

WE MISS YOU ALL. IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU NEED, PLEASE CALL/TEXT/EMAIL/ US NO MATTER THE TIME!

PAMELA@NORTHHAVENCHURCH.NET
 KAITLYN@NORTHHAVENCHURCH.NET



November 2: Josh Lockett
 November 2: Angela Paganoni
 November 8: Joyce Krause
 November 9: Mike Bumgarner
 November 15: Autumn Lockett
 November 15: Van Tran

November 15: Maryann Wilson
 November 17: Teri Jordan
 November 17: Carol Lockhart
 November 20: Don Schooler
 November 20: Clay Tarter
 November 30: Keri Fullbright

(Letters to My Church continued.)

Pastors are not exceptional in this regard. All of us have been under an enormous strain for a long time now. I share those stories to illustrate how lucky I am to be at a church who encourages me to focus on my mental health and my family. I've seen the cost ministers pay when they aren't as lucky as I am.

I love you, NorthHaven Church, and I love being your pastor. It is hard work (as is being my congregant!), and it is rewarding.

The message I hope you receive from my stepping away is that I love myself enough to take care of my own soul. I love my family enough to right the scales when they've grown unbalanced. I love you enough to

practice what I preach- to let God refill me so that I have something of substance to share with you.

The message I hope you receive from my stepping away is that mental health is not something to be treated lightly. It is serious, and demands that we take it seriously.

Some of you may also be at a point in the pandemic when it is time to make changes.

Make them.

Go see the counselor, talk to your PCP, and set up a Zoom with your friends.

You matter. Your mental health matters.

November Preaching Schedule:

Jillian Mitchell Nov. 1, 2020

Jillian Mitchell is a junior at the University of Oklahoma pursuing a double major in Letters and International Area Studies with a minor in piano. She grew up at Spring Creek Baptist Church, preaching her first sermon there when she was sixteen. She has interned at Northhaven for the past three years, and she has also interned at Second Baptist Church in Little Rock. In her free time, she loves reading books, talking about politics, and taking her puppy Rosie on walks.



Leana Coyle-Carr Nov. 8, 2020

Leanna Coyle-Carr is Resident at Wilshire Baptist Church in Dallas, TX. She earned her masters degree at Wake Forest School of Divinity in Winston-Salem, North Carolina where she studied the intersection of faith, femininity, and ecological well-being. Leanna welcomed her daughter, Henlee Caroline, in 2019, and she looks forward to the overlap and conversation between motherhood and the pastoring life.



Kristin McAtee Nov. 15, 2020

Kristin is the Associate Coordinator of CBF Oklahoma. Previously, She served on church staffs in California and in Oklahoma in the areas of music, education, children and administration. Most recently, Kristin served at First Baptist Church of Oklahoma City as Minister for Administration and Children. One of Kristin's joys is creating partnerships to further Kingdom work and she looks forward to many new and interesting relationships through CBFO.



Dr. Molly T. Marshall Nov. 22, 2020

Dr. Marshall was the president of Central Seminary, and the grit behind its rebirth into theological education in the 21st century. She received her Ph.D from Southern Seminary and taught there as a professor until being fired because of her gender. She is a founder of Baptist Women in Ministry, and the subject of the recent Good Faith Media podcast Brother Molly.

