

“Behind the Music”  
June 3, 2018

Pray

**Introduce Chris Hertzog.**

You chose My Lighthouse, as one of our worship song. Why?

CHRIS: *I chose this song because it's upbeat and fun to belt out. But I like the analogy of Jesus as a lighthouse because even though this song focuses on the idea of Jesus leading us through the tough times- the storms- a lighthouse is there even in the calm.*

Thanks Chris. When we sing worship songs like Lighthouse, it's our opportunity to voice some really powerful words. Maybe you're in a stormy season, like Chris mentioned. Or maybe things are calm right now. Either way – I invite you to really reflect on the constancy of God as our lighthouse as we stand and sing together.

**"MY LIGHTHOUSE"**

**Introduce Erika Waggener.**

You chose another worship song with a great message, My Worth Is Not In What I Own. Can you share just a bit of why this song resonate with you?

ERIKA: *Growing up I was looking for external 'things' for happiness: if I were skinnier, prettier, rich and if I had all the best, newest things I would find happiness. What I've learned is all of those things aren't forever; they aren't guaranteed, and although they're nice, they aren't that important. God's love, his grace, and what he has done for us is everything, and this song is a great reminder when I slip back into old thought patterns.*

Thanks Erika. As you said, songs like this provide an immediate heart-check. So as we sing this song together, I would encourage you think about where you may be finding your worth. These aren't easy words to sing, but they can give us so much

freedom when we realize how much pressure we carry from finding our worth in anything but God's love and grace. Remain seated but sing with us.

## "MY WORTH IS NOT IN WHAT I OWN"

### Introduce Richard Blair.

*RICHARD: My name is Richard Blair and I have been on staff at North Heartland going on two amazing years. I am single but I do have an amazing child....my guitar, Ellie.*

You also chose Reckless Love, another worship song with great words. I remember in our programming meeting when you shared with us why.

*RICHARD: At first, the song "Reckless Love" seemed like just another worship song that we sing on Sundays, but going into the first week we sang it I found myself listening to it over and over. It's the first song I memorized fully and rather quickly as well. This song speaks to me because it gives us an amazing image of how God's love for us is reckless-God would turn over tables to find us. He leaves behind the 99 others in order to search us out, and that alone is a beautiful picture of the kind of God we serve.*

Thanks Richard. And I agree with you ~ the thought that we are so loved by our heavenly Father is so beautiful. As we sing together, I invite you to really think about these words. How might our lives be different if we really live in the Reckless Love of God.

## "RECKLESS LOVE"

### Introduce Bill Hensley.

I really like the song you chose, Dear Younger Me. Tell me why you picked it.

*BILL: I chose this song because of past regrets. It tells me that the past has put me where God has me right now and that path leads to Him.*

Thanks Bill. That's one of the things I love out NHCC. We can all freely admit we have regrets and know we aren't alone. As we listen to this song, I would encourage

you to let God speak to your heart, just as Bill has described ~ by revealing the path He's leading you on right now, in spite of what the past may have been.

"DEAR YOUNGER ME"

### Introduce Andrea Panjada.

I really like the song you chose, What A Wonderful World, because it's such a well-known secular song. But then our programming team got their hands on it ~ Tell us why you chose it.

*ANDREA: I love how this song points out that in our dark, twisted, chaotic world, we can still see God's peace, love, and wonder if we just keep our eyes fixed on the positive. It reminds me that even in the hard times, God is still there surrounding us. This song is such a classic, legendary song and I love getting to put my own spin on it.*

Thanks Andrea. I have to admit ~ I never hear this song anymore without being reminded that we get to see the wonder of God's world every day. In the midst of all the dark, crazy, hard times, God is still for us and revealing Himself to us ~ if we just look. Let's listen to these classic words through a different filter.

"WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD"

### Introduce Hannah Shuler.

I love ending with the song you chose because it's really a perfect example of what happens before a song is ever rehearsed. Tell us about it.

*HANNAH: I chose "If Everyone Cared" not because of the message of the song, although it has a great one. I chose it because this song showcases exactly what makes North Heartland music so very cool and the teamwork that goes into what we do. Maggie suggested this Nickelback song for the particular message that day and once we got past the fact that it was Nickelback, Nathan said that he could not only revamp it, but that we would make it better than the original and everyone on the team worked together to change the song into something that we thought would be great.*

Thanks Hannah! Did you hear what she said? The TEAMWORK that goes into what happens in this room every week, on every song is the real behind the music story. Just to give you a quick idea of what that means, if you're in our band and not onstage, would you stand? Drama team stand. Tech and sound team stand.

And here's the big secret --- they are all doing this because NHCC has a unique calling to communicate through the Arts by using drama and secular music and video and a band --- all working together to present the good news of Jesus in clear, compelling ways. That's why this song has the perfect message not just about why our arts teams do what they do, but it's at the core of who we are as a church and is the driving force for every volunteer and staff member.

### **"IF EVERYONE CARED"**

Speaking of the uniqueness of NHCC, we have an opportunity coming up for you to step in.

(Invitation to volunteer at fireworks tent)