

# Hope Happenings

*Connecting the congregation in ministry.*

Hope Evangelical Covenant Church  
451 Ackman Road  
Crystal Lake, IL 60014

**October 2011**

www.hope-covenant.org  
815 455-6340

Matt King, Associate Pastor  
Youth Ministries

## Our New Website is Launched

[www.hope-covenant.org](http://www.hope-covenant.org)

Hope Covenant Church is keeping up-to-date with its new website. Tom Olsen and Brad Winn have worked long and hard to make the website the best possible. Stop by for a visit. Notice how it has changed and reflects our church so well. And you will also find Hope Covenant Church on Facebook. Like us on Facebook.

### Fall Sunday School

This fall, the GROW team is excited about a unique opportunity for the whole family to grow in their knowledge of the Bible during the Sunday School hour. The *FaithWeaver* curriculum is being taught in the children and youth Sunday School classes, and is one option for adults, as well. *FaithWeaver* presents the same scripture passage to every class, using age-appropriate activities, with the goal of helping families “weave” these Biblical truths into their everyday lives. This fall we are studying Genesis. Adults, if you are attending the *Marriage on the Rock* class this fall, you can still participate in this study by following the calendar each week in your family devotional time. How will God use this study in your household?

October 2: Genesis 3:1-24  
*We all sin.*

October 9: Genesis 4:1-16  
*God wants us to love and honor our families.*

October 16: Genesis 6:5-22  
*God wants us to obey.*

October 23: Genesis 7:1-8:22; 9:8-16  
*God's promises are always reliable.*

October 30: Genesis 11:1-9  
*We all need God.*

**Sign-ups** are now being taken for families to host the Sunday morning coffee and cookie time. Please make your plans to assist in this important ministry.

### Serve - - Opportunities this fall

Here are some opportunities for you to serve others and help meet the needs of individuals. All are invited to participate.

- October 7 - We serve at the food pantry.
- October 15 - AIDS Care Kit packing day. This project helps AIDS patients.
- November 4 - Our day to serve at the food pantry.
- November 5 - Neighborhood Walk/Coat Drive.
- November and December - Salvation Army bell ringing; helping the urban poor.
- December 10 – Feed My Starving Children packing meals.

### Connect with New Members

At a recent Sunday morning worship we welcomed new members.

Terry and Wynne Ferro  
Adam and Laura Kulawik  
Jonathan and Amanda Nehring  
Carissa Brecheisen

*“Joining a church is a declaration of purpose - it aims our lives more clearly in the direction we want to believe God wants us to go. It is a choice to live intentionally, not just falling into whatever comes next but choosing to pursue God’s priorities and call at this time, in this place, with these people. . . . Stating our commitment makes a difference in all of life, including in the church.”* Quoted from *The Covenant Companion*, September 2011.

## Women Ministries - -

### Bible Study Opportunity

Monday Mornings This popular study has resumed at 9:15 a.m. The current study is on the book of Daniel.

### *Fall Fellowship Retreat:*

The women of Hope enjoyed a wonderful weekend during Fall Fellowship at Covenant Harbor in Lake Geneva, WI, September 23-25. There were 20 ladies that attended the weekend, 3 of them for the first time. We enjoyed fantastic food, fellowship, seminars, singing, worship, prayer, solitude and communing with God. Look at the Women Ministries page of the Hope website for photos of the weekend. Grab a gal and ask her to share her "Holty Tow!" story of how God spoke to her.

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### Pastoral Search

The Search Committee continues to meet regularly as we move forward towards our goal of finding our new pastor. The committee's work of late has been focused on information gathering in order to complete the pastor profile and the church profile. Completing these profiles are two very important steps in the search process. The committee has been reviewing survey results, town hall meeting comments and comments from a recent meeting with some members of the church leadership in order to refine our profiles.

You still have opportunity to share your thoughts. Committee members' names are printed in the bulletin each Sunday. Please feel free to share you thoughts, feelings and concerns with any committee member.

➔ Also, please attend the next **town hall meeting** that is scheduled for October 16. Town hall meetings are the best way to keep informed, let us know what you're thinking, and to find out what others are thinking about this very important step in our congregational life.

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### Praying For Missionaries

- All missionaries desire to be in the center of God's will for their lives to carry out an effective ministry.
- Pray for their relationship with God.
- Pray for their relationship with nationals, language skills, and cultural understanding.
- Pray for good working relationships.
- Pray for open doors for witnessing.
- Pray for friendships and time for relaxation and renewal.
- Pray for reassurance that can only come from knowing that God has his hand over all they are doing.

## Student Ministries

### For Junior and Senior High Youth

Junior High Youth - Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

Senior High Youth - Sunday School at 10:45 a.m.

### Youth Group Meetings

Senior High - Sunday evenings at 6:00

Junior High - Wednesday evenings at 6:30

### Confirmation

Wednesday evenings at 7:30.

### Welcome Billy Kangus

Billy Kangus is a student intern from North Park Seminary who is helping with the Junior High ministries. We are grateful for his help with this growing group.

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*Meeting the first and third Thursday from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m.*

MOPS kicked off the year with its first meeting September 16 with over 40 moms and 57 children registered. The MOPS mentors this year are Judy Frazier, Judy Eastwood, Dawn Smith, Paulette Westberg and Sue Whitfield. We are thankful for the time and effort they put forth to be with us each month. They are indeed a blessing to the moms.

Additionally, there are several Moppet volunteers. Without them MOPS would not be possible. Thank you to those who take such good care of the children! We are currently in need of a few more helpers in the classrooms. If you can spare a few hours on alternate Thursday mornings and would like to spend some time with the kids, please let us know.

MOPS exists to encourage, equip and develop every mother of preschooler to realize her potential as a woman, mother and leader in the name of Christ Jesus. The theme for this MOPS year is *Momsense*. 2 Timothy 1:7 encourages us to use our gifts by being bold, loving and sensible. This year we will continue to embrace our mothering instincts and develop our own parenting style while navigating through the myriad of daily mom decisions.

Hope Covenant is reaching out to the moms in this community through this incredible ministry.

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### Crystal Lake Food Pantry

People desiring to serve at the Food Pantry, please contact Herb Snider.

## Let's Celebrate Together

### October Birthdays

2 Don Schmidt	21 Rhys King
10 Kylie Dick	22 Christel Yavaliollah
11 Judy Eastwood	26 Yas Stevens
13 Jim Adams	30 Tom Olsen
16 Alex Clardy	30 Gabe Rickard

### October Anniversaries

4 Rob & Lori Nicholas	1986
9 Jim & Paula Busby	1999
10 Mike & Yas Stevens	2001
13 John & Jennifer Breun	2007
24 Tony & Pam Jackson	1991
24 Dan & Kathy Malone	1987
24 Brian & Karlene Stitle	1998
27 Mike & Tracey Dayton	1991

Send a card, make a phone call or say it in person.  
Let them know you remembered their special day.

### Annual Christmas Program

We rejoice that at this time we have been able to fill the cast for the Christmas program: *Wee Three Kings*. There will be rehearsals during the next two months. The date for the performance is yet to be determined, but it will be on a Sunday morning.

Oct 1	Everyone	9:00-10:30 a.m.
Oct 8	Sheep & Goats	8:40-9:00 a.m.
	Everyone	9:00-10:30 a.m.
Oct 15	Lions	9:00-9:20 a.m.
	Camels	9:20-9:40 a.m.
	Lambs	9:40-10:00 a.m.
	Shepherds	10:00-10:20 a.m.
Oct 22	Stars	8:30-9:00 a.m.
	Everyone	9:00-10:30 a.m.
Oct 29	Angels	8:30-9:00 a.m.
	Everyone	9:00-10:30 a.m.
Nov 5	NO REHEARSAL	
Nov 12	3 Kings	8:30-9:00 a.m.
	Everyone	9:00-10:30 a.m.
Nov 19	Donkeys & Camels	8:40-9:00 a.m.
	Everyone	9:00-10:30 Rough Run-through
Nov 26	Everyone	9:00-10:30 Dress rehearsal?
Dec 3	Everyone	9:00-10:30 Dress rehearsal
Dec 10	Everyone	9:00-10:30 Dress rehearsal
Dec 11 <u>or</u> 18		10:50 a.m. Performance

### Marriage on The Rock

Many of our marriages have moments that are "on the rocks." We started September 18<sup>th</sup> and will continue for 10 weeks. We're exploring how to place our marriages on THE ROCK - Jesus Christ. We'll discuss the most important issue in a marriage, a covenant relationship, foundational laws of marriage: priority, pursuit, possession, and purity. We'll also discuss the basic needs of men and women, and the principles of financial success. Come join us during the Sunday School hour for great discussion!

### Fall Action Zone

The fall program of learning about God's Superheroes continues. 4th and 5th grades have their own class. Any questions, talk to Kate Norten.

2 Corinthians 5:9 "We make it our goal to please Him."



**Adventure Club**  
MORE than a club-  
it's an ADVENTURE

Wednesdays  
6:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Our mission: To introduce, encourage the commitment of, and develop the relationship of children to the historical, biblical Jesus.

This month clubbers will meet and travel with Old Testament friends who demonstrate for us a God-like quality, Abraham (faith), Joshua (courage), Deborah (leadership), and Ruth (loyalty). The salvation message will be shared on October 26 and we'll end the month with our annual Hoedown!

If your child has not yet signed up for Adventure Club, it is never too late. Adventure Club is for kids Kindergarten through 5th grade. We meet on Wednesdays from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. at Hope. For more information or register at [www.hope-covenant.org](http://www.hope-covenant.org).



Fall is here! We are looking forward to a great Fall event. Plans are underway. We are looking into doing a hayride and a bonfire. Be alert for more information coming

*Jesus smiles when He sees your ministry.*

**Thank you** to the many who donated items for care packages last month. Because of your generosity we were able to provide care packages to four Hope families in need! They are grateful, you are blessed, and the care team is thankful.

## Hope Happenings

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### At Hope Covenant Church

#### Saturday Evening

5:30 pm Worship

#### Sunday Morning

9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Sunday School  
For all ages

## Sunday Worship in October

October 2 - Pastor Matt King preaching  
October 9 - Pastor Matt King preaching  
October 16 - Guest Preacher  
October 23 - Pastor Matt King preaching  
October 30 - Pastor Matt King preaching

### Saturday Evening - 5:30 p.m. WORSHIP

We invite all to participate as Hope Covenant Church worships on Saturday evening.

**Prayer Gathering**  
**Tuesday Evenings,**  
**7:00 to 8:00 p.m.**



"My house will be called a house of prayer. . . ."  
Matthew 21:13

Each Saturday and Sunday at worship we gather your prayer requests. These requests are honored during the week as people gather to pray. Please let us join you in prayer when there is a need or concern on your heart. Just fill out the back of the *Welcome Card* with your request(s) and drop it in the offering plate or leave it at the Welcome Center.

You are invited to participate in our weekly prayer gathering. It will be through prayer that we advance God's kingdom through Hope Covenant Church. No special skill required. Just come with your heart ready to pray. Together we bring requests, praise, and gratitude to God. All are welcome and encouraged to come.

## Our Church Library

The church library is there for your benefit. Make it a priority to visit the Library for reference material, books and CD / video / DVD recordings. Notice the seasonal items displayed on the cart, which are available for your use.

### *Hope's Vision Statement*

To serve the needs  
of our communities' contemporary families,  
focusing on the unchurched,  
to find hope in Christ for today and eternity.

## *Your Church Leaders*

Church Chair - Tim McNaughton  
Church Vice Chair  
also Board of Spiritual Life Chair - Al Winn

Please send newsletter contributions by  
October 25  
to <Dale.hopehap@sbcglobal.net> for the  
November 2011 issue of *Hope Happenings*.

## *Pray for our military personnel*

Mehrvarz Yavaliollah in Iraq

Give us the name(s) of other service personnel.