

Hope Happenings

Connecting the congregation in ministry.

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

**January-February
2012**

www.hope-covenant.org
815 455-6340

Matt King, Associate Pastor
Youth Ministries

Dear Hope Parents,

We kids are very busy this winter at church! In Action Zone, we are learning one of the most well-known chapters of the Bible: Psalm 23. The older kids are learning about leadership as they are each a "shepherd" of a small flock of younger kids. We are working hard to memorize the entire chapter! Please help us practice at home, too.

In Sunday School we have finished our Genesis study, and now we are studying about the life of Jesus. It is fun to learn more, building on what we learned about Jesus' childhood in VBS last summer at Hometown Nazareth!

DON'T FORGET to sign us up for camp soon!!! Before you know it, summer will be here. We hear there are lots of fun things to do at Covenant Harbor, including a new climbing wall that sounds like a lot of fun.

Thanks, mom and dad, for bringing us to church every Sunday, teaching us about God's Word, and praying with us and for us every day.

*Love,
Your Kids*

The Lord is MY shepherd, I shall not be in want.
Psalm 23:1 NIV

Annual Meeting voting brings a few leadership changes.

Sunday afternoon, January 8, the congregation met for the second half of the Annual Meeting. One of the tasks of the Annual Meeting is to vote for those who will lead the church for the next year.

The following officers were elected.

- Chair - Tim McNaughton
- Recording Secretary - Carrie McCune
- Treasurer - Dave Person
- Financial Secretary - Dale Westberg
- At Large Trustee - Judy Frazier
- Director of Ministry (Connect) - Nick Slaughter
- Director of Ministry (Serve) - Amanda Arwood
- At Large Board of Spiritual Life - Michelle Mattes
- Nominating Committee - Debbie Brecheisen
- Nominating Committee - Dar McNaughton
- Mutual Ministries - Brian Brecheisen
- Mutual Ministries - Judy Jorgensen

Other business was to receive reports and pass the budget for the year. After considerable discussion the members present approved the 2012 budget of \$358,028. It was noted that 2011 was closed with all bills paid and all stewardship commitments met. For that we are most grateful to God.

Couples Movie Night

Friday, February 10 from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Snacks provided.

Giving Envelopes

The church provides envelopes for you to use in giving your offerings. The envelopes provide a system of record-keeping resulting in your annual receipt that can be used for tax purposes. You are encouraged to use your envelopes to assist in recording your gifts accurately. Note: Envelopes for 2012 are available. Please pick-up your envelopes.

CHIC is a triennial event for high school students all around the country. Over 7,000 kids will gather in a wonderful event of action, study and contemplation. This is a life-changing experience as the Gospel takes hold of young lives to challenge them. Hope Covenant Church youth will be attending and we, as a church, will be helping them raise funds to attend. There will be several opportunities to support this effort. How about the Couples' Movie Night, February 10!

Winter Youth Retreats

Senior High: January 13 - 16 at Covenant Point, Iron River, MI.

Junior High Deep Freeze: February 10-12 at Covenant Harbor, Lake Geneva, WI.

Summer Camp

Covenant Harbor and Covenant Point are now open for registration for Summer 2012.

Check out the brochure that came in the mail to all those who attended in 2011.

Brochures will be available at church shortly.

All information is available online too.

Covenant Harbor
www.covenantharbor.org

Covenant Point
www.cpbc.com

Celebrating Camp

and

Camp Auction

Saturday, March 17

Chili Cook-off

Perfect your recipe!

Silent Auction and Live Auction

Come prepared to help send kids to camp.

It's lots of fun, too.

2nd Hour – Adult Sunday School

January classes continue with "FaithWeaver" looking at the life of Jesus weaving Biblical truths into our everyday living. In February classes will focus on the sermon series "Multiply".

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.

Senior High Overnight is February 17 at church.

Pastoral Search

The Search Committee is continuing along the path towards a new lead pastor for the church. Since completing our profiles and gathering a list of interested candidates, we have moved into the interview stage. We are meeting often to accomplish phone and face-to-face interviews. Now is the time when we all need to pause and try our best to discern where God is trying to lead us. He knows who the next lead pastor will be. Continue to keep our church and the Search Committee in your prayers that we might hear His direction so His will can be done through us.

The Search Committee has taken on a little different title, that of "Transition Team."

Care Team is on the job

The Care Team helps us serve one another at Hope Covenant Church. The Team's mission is to coordinate serving needs of material, emotional, spiritual concerns and special needs. The pastoral staff is helped with visitation and providing of meals through the "care calendar", and sending greetings to our sick and those needing encouragement. The Care Team also want to help members celebrate the milestones of life. Are you open to God's leading in serving? Please contact Lynn Winn to share how you would like to serve in this area.

Women Ministries - -

↓ **Don't let this one slip by.** ↓

Spring Celebration 2012

Women Ministries of the Central Conference invites you to *Refocus! Refocus! Rejoice!* Friday, March 16 from 5:00 p.m. until Saturday at 3:00 p.m. which is hosted by the Fox Valley District women at Hillcrest Covenant church in DeKalb. See Kim Olsen for details. Registration material and more information is available at <centralconferencewomenministries.com/Spring-Conference.html>.

Let's Celebrate Together

January

1 Andrew Wilcox
3 Alex Malone
4 Jerrad Rickard
8 Tony Wilcox
11 Amy Clady
13 Kate Norten
15 Eli Rickard
16 Allison Winn
17 Emily Ball
18 Cynthia Hodill
19 Jonas Szum
21 Brian Brecheisen
23 David Nicholas
24 Mehrdad Yavaliollah
26 Kim Olsen
26 Judy Ellis
28 Mary Johnson
29 Ben Szum
30 Isabelle Arwood
31 Mike Dayton

Birthdays

2 Carissa Brecheisen
3 Dawn Smith
4 Kristen Gill
7 David Caspari
11 Bill Spence
11 Ed Frazier
11 Paul Witt
14 Anita Wojnicki
15 Phyllis Jennings
16 Kristi Caspari
17 Kevin Kuligowski
17 Sue Gill
18 Jonathan Rickard
20 Dave Person
23 Lindsey Greenwood
24 Gary Smith
28 Pat Cree

February



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

Adventure Club in 2012

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 Jesus as well as New Testament and modern day friends. Clubbers will be learning Godly traits. Our service project will be introduced on January 25. The salvation message will be shared on February 15.

There will be no club on March 28. Adventure Club is a mid-week Bible ministry for kids in grades K-5. Club meets on Wednesdays, 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM. at Hope Covenant Church. Don't miss the adventure... invite a friend and join us! More information can be obtained by visiting www.hope-covenant.org.



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

Mothers of Pre-school children meet for fellowship, inspiration and encouragement. If you have a question or want more information please contact Carrie McCune or Christine Witt.

Anniversaries

January

17 Scott and Beth Propp 1981
21 Jeff and Fran Danek 1981

February

2 Tom and Judy Jorgensen 1968

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

People of prayer. Churches are known by their people. One distinctive is to be people who pray. What a heritage to give the children of the church! Pray for God to lead all of us.

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.

Game Night for Women

The women of Hope Covenant Church are joining with the MOPS women for a game night once a month. A great evening of fun and fellowship — the first Friday of every month at 7:00 p.m. Contact Kim Olsen for more information.

Church Office Hours

The office is open Tuesday to Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. You can always call the office for more information or to find a contact for an event at church. Office phone is 815 455-6340.

Something special for 2012:

Mission Trip to Mexico

In late June 2012, Hope Covenant Church will be sending a group to do mission work with local people in Chetumal, Mexico. We expect to see God work in truly amazing and meaningful ways in us and through us. If you would like to be a part of what God is going to do through this trip, contact Pastor Matt. Give special consideration to participating.

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

Worship in January.

5:30 p.m. Saturday and 9:30 a.m. Sunday.

- January 14th and 15th "The Story"

Billy Kangus preaching

- January 21-22 Servant leadership

Pastor Matt preaching

- January 28-29 Prayer

Pastor Matt preaching

Worship in February

- February 4 "Those People"
- February 5 "Multiply" (tentative)
- February 11 "Those People"
- February 12 "Multiply" (tentative)
- February 18 "Those People"
- February 19 "Multiply" (tentative)
- February 25 "Those People"
- February 26 Pastor Matt preaching

"**Multiply**" is a presentation used in Saturday Evening Worship that has earned high praise for its content.

The Saturday group has urged that it be used in Sunday Morning Worship as well as the message is so freeing. Pastor Matt will facilitate the presentations.

"**Those People**" We will learn how we can live with and show love to people who are hypocritical, negative, critical, and/or manipulative. They are fellow church goers, co-workers, neighbors, and family members. They are *Those People*.

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.

Your Church Leaders

Church Chair - Tim McNaughton

Church Vice Chair

also Board of Spiritual Life Chair - Al Winn

Please send newsletter contributions by
February 27
to <Dale.hopehap@sbcglobal.net> for the
March 2012 issue of *Hope Happenings*.

Pray for our military personnel

Mehrvarz Yavaliollah (Army)

Christopher Ellis (Navy)

Saturday Evening - 5:30 p.m. WORSHIP

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

"Prayer—secret, fervent, believing prayer—lies at the root of all personal godliness."

William Carey, as quoted in *Prayer* by Richard Foster.