

Hope Happenings

Connecting the congregation in ministry.

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

January 2011

www.hope-covenant.org
815 455-6340

Jeff Schirle, Lead Pastor
Matt King, Associate Pastor
Youth Ministries

Leadership Team for 2011

Hope Covenant Church

Tim McNaughton, Chair
Al Winn, Vice Chair (presides Board of Spiritual Life)
Carrie McCune, Recording Secretary
Cindy Wegener, Treasurer
Paul Witt, Financial Secretary
Greg Mellinger, Board of Trustees At Large
Brian Brecheisen, Board of Trustees At Large
Open position, Board of Trustees At Large
Lori Nicholas, Ministry Director, Board of Spiritual Life
Paulette Westberg, Ministry Director, Board of Spiritual Life
Cathy Mellinger, Ministry Director, Board of Spiritual Life
Dave Johnson, Board of Spiritual Life At Large
Dave Greenwood, Board of Spiritual Life At Large

Board of Trustees is the officially recognized corporate board. This board oversees all aspects of church life.

Board of Spiritual Life is responsible for the spiritual direction of the church as it reaches out to Connect, Grow and Serve.

Mutual Ministries is the official committee working with the pastoral staff of the church to assist with effective communication between the congregation and the staff. Is an advocate for both the staff and the congregation as we work together to achieve the established goals.

The Chair convenes the Mutual Ministries.

Members are Lisa Greenwood, Dale Westberg and Josh Norten.

Nominating Committee is responsible for recruiting candidates for the various offices in the church. They prepare the annual ballot. The committee functions year 'round to recruit candidates.

Committee members are Greg Mellinger (Board of Trustees), Brad Winn, Dawn Smith and one open position.

Ministry Leaders will be recruited from members and regular attenders of Hope Covenant Church to fill needs of various ministries. The terms may be short to see a project through or longer for a continuing project. Your help is needed as we launch this new form of governance at Hope Covenant Church.

Summer Camp Dates

Covenant Harbor, our camp in Lake Geneva, WI, and **Covenant Point**, our camp at Iron River, MI, are both accepting registrations for the summer camps. Now is the time to be planning for your camp experience. Ages are based on this school year.

Covenant Harbor -

Pathfinder (grade 1, 2, 3)

June 26-29, June 29-July 2

July 31- August 3, August 3-6

August 7-13

Trailblazer (grades 2 and 3)

June 19-25, July 17-23, July 24-30

Explorer (Grades 4 and 5)

June 19-25

July 10-16, July 31-August 6

August 14-18 Snapshot

Navigators (Grades 6, 7 and 8)

June 26-July 2, July 17-23,

July 24-30, August 7-13

Element (Grades 9 to 12)

July 10-16

Family Camp July 3-8

Check out the website for full details, including camps for future staff training. www.covenantharbor.org

Covenant Point -

There are many camps offered at Covenant Point. Ages range from Grade 2 through families. The camps are on the island or in the main camp. They also offer trip camps.

For all the details go to their website at www.cpbc.com

Camp Auction to be held in March will help send kids to camp.

Sunday School — 10:45 - 11:45 am

Children's Sunday School classroom locations are available at the welcome center.

Youth Sunday School class is in the Youth Room.

Second Hour - Adult Sunday School

10:45 - 11:45 a.m.

Forgotten God Beginning Sunday, January 9, Brian Brecheisen will lead a nine-week study of the book, *Forgotten God* by Francis Chan. Using solid scriptural support and information, we will look at how the Bible describes the Holy Spirit and how we have neglected His role in our lives and in the church. This is a study on whom the Holy Spirit is and why God brought Him into this world to be our guide and counselor.

Entrusted With a Child's Heart Sunday School class. A class for both men and women and for all stages of life. This class continues.

Facilitated by Lisa Greenwood and Kate Norton.

Hope Covenant Church

Annual Meeting

Second Half - Sunday, January 9 at 3:00 p.m.

Care Looks Ahead . . .

Hope will be partnering with Tri-County Pregnancy and Parenting Services the month of February with their Baby Bottle Campaign. This is a fundraiser to raise awareness about the sanctity of human life and the work of Tri-County in serving women, youth, and in protecting the unborn. The church will be given bottles to fill with loose change, dollar bills or checks during the month of February.

During this time we are asked to pray for the clients visiting the pregnancy centers.

More information to follow.



Lost and Found Please check the area to the left of the front doors for items belonging to you. Items are donated on the last Thursday of each month.

Student Ministries

For Junior and Senior High Youth

Junior High Youth Group meets on Wednesday from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Confirmation is 7:30 to 8:30 p.m.

Deep Freeze The winter retreat for Junior High students at Covenant Harbor in Lake Geneva, WI. February 11 - 13. Talk to Pastor Matt if you have not yet registered.

Senior High Youth Group meets Sunday evening at 6:00 p.m. Girls and Guys Bible Studies meet on alternate weeks.

Winter Retreat will be held at Covenant Point Camp in Iron River, Michigan, January 14 - 17.

Crystal Lake Food Pantry

Hope's day to serve at the food pantry will be Friday, January 28. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Contributions to the Food Pantry are always welcome. You will find boxes outside the office door. You should leave your contribution there.

Saturday Evening - 5:30 p.m.

WORSHIP

Saturday evening is a wonderful worship experience especially if you cannot attend the Sunday morning service. We began a new 4 part message from Pastor Craig Groeschel of the Covenant's Life Church in Edmund, OK entitled *Margin*.

The first message introduced us to the *margins* or lack thereof in our daily lives. *Margins* are what is left after needs - time, money, etc. Most of us operate on very little *margin* and it leads to a great deal of stress. Lack of sufficient *margin* also leads to lower intimacy in relationships. He equates the lack of *margin* as a reflection of a lack of faith and a reflection of idolatry. The first message was over way too soon, and we were challenged to spend just 5 minutes each day the following week in "still" time. ("Be still, and know that I am God..." Psalm 46:10). We all accepted the challenge and endeavor to hold ourselves and each other accountable 'til next week. What a wonderful way to start the New Year.

January 8 Scheduling *Margins*

January 15 Financial *Margins*

January 22 Moral *Margins*

Prayer

"My house will be called a house of prayer. . ."
Matthew 21:13 quoted from Isaiah 56:7

You may submit your prayer request by using the *Welcome Card* on Sunday, by calling the pastor or church office, or by email (pastorjeff@hope-covenant.org). If you would like to be prayed over personally, please talk to Pastor Jeff.

When you sense a need for prayer, please let us know.

You are invited to participate with the Prayer Team, On Monday mornings, at 8:00 a.m. at the church.

Men's Ministry

Each Saturday at 7:30 a.m. Come for food, fellowship and Bible study. All men welcome!

Christmas Tree We have a tree that has been sitting in the shed for over 5 years. We would love for it to find a home. The tree stands approximately 6' tall. You will find it in the Conference Room until **January 13th**, after which it will be donated. Thank You!

Let's Celebrate Together

January Birthdays

1 Andrew Wilcox	19 Jonas Szum
3 Alex Malone	21 Brian Brecheisen
4 Jerrad Rickard	23 Dave Nicholas
8 Tony Wilcox	24 Mehrdad Yavaliollah
11 Amy Clardy	26 Kim Olsen
13 Kate Nortén	28 Mary Johnson
15 Elijah Rickard	29 Ben Szum
16 Allison Winn	30 Isabelle Arwood
17 Emily Smith	31 Mason Mellinger
18 Cindy Hodill	31 Mike Dayton

January Anniversaries

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

This is your opportunity to help your friends at Hope celebrate their important day.



Meeting
1st & 3rd Thursday
9:30 to 11:00 a.m.

Momology: The Art and Science of Mothering

Annual Business Meeting, Part 2

The second half of the annual business meeting is scheduled for Sunday, **January 9 at 3:00 pm.** The meeting agenda includes reports from Pastor Jeff, Pastor Matt, Worship Director Bethany Arndt and the

remaining commissions, Fellowship and Children. We will vote on the 2011 proposed budget. Please plan to attend this very important meeting.

Week of Prayer is being observed from January 2 to 8 throughout the Covenant Church denomination to emphasize the importance of prayer in the life of the church as well as individuals.

Leadership Installation will be held during the Worship Service on Sunday, January 16. This is an opportunity to recognize our leaders for 2011 and set them apart for God's work in our church.

Covenant Pastors' Mid-Winter Conference will be held in Rosemont, IL, from January 31 to February 4. This is a special time for our pastors for their personal inspiration and one-on-one support of colleagues in ministry. An important event for our pastors.

The Feast, a triennial event of worship and prayer will be held at YMCA Camp of the Rockies in Estes Park, CO, from June 25-28. Families are invited to attend. Make it part of your vacation!

Hope Coffee will be available soon. The Junior High youth are selling coffee to raise fund to visit the Creation Museum near Cincinnati.

Offering Envelopes for 2011 are available. If you have not picked yours up, they are on the table by the office door. When you use the envelope it allows your gifts to be recorded easily without additional steps.

PIE Offerings help our young people at North Park University. This is a partnership of church and school that helps defray some of the costs for the students.



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

Snack donations are needed. Each week there are some 75 Adventure Clubbers and Guides that we serve snacks. Your help will reduce our costs and meet this need. Suggested snacks include cookies, apples, animal crackers, fish crackers, fruit roll-up, etc. A donation box is located in the narthex.

Severe weather cancellations are noted on the church website (www.hope-covenant.org).

If you are questioning the weather, check the website.

Council
Corner

Hope Happenings

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

At Hope Covenant Church

Saturday Evening

5:30 pm Worship

Sunday Mornings

9:30 am Worship

10:45 am Sunday School
For all ages

Sunday Worship in January

January 9- "Wilderness, Fire and a Dove"
(Mt. 3:1-17) John baptizes Jesus

January 16- "The Whole Truth and Nothing But..."
(John 1:29-34) We are all called to be a witness;
Testimony Sunday and Leadership Installation

January 23- Pastor Matt preaching

January 30- "The Beatitudes"
(Matthew 5:1-12)

Feb 6- "Salt and Light"
(Matthew 5:13 - 20) Communion Sunday

Feb 13- "A Step Beyond the Minimum Requirements"
(Mt. 5:21-37)

Prayer Week -

We begin the New Year with a **Week of Prayer**.

The Prayer Team invites you to join them every morning this week (January 2 - 8) for a time of prayer in our worship center from 8 to 9 am.

A Week of Prayer Devotional is available
at the Welcome Center

The devotional is designed to use at any time. It is not too late to pick-up your copy and participate.

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. A perfect place to find resources for personal growth or getting ready for a class. There is material for all ages.

If you haven't visited the Church Library you are missing out on a great resource!

Please send newsletter contributions by
January 25
to Dale.hopehap@sbcglobal.net for the
February 2011 issue of *Hope Happenings*.

Our worship creates a sense of intimacy with both God and one another and forms us into a community of disciples of Christ.