

Hope Happenings

Connecting the congregation in ministry.

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

February 2011

www.hope-covenant.org
815 455-6340

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

Ministry Kick-Off

Saturday, February 26 from 9:00 a.m. until about noon. All persons are invited to this event as we learn what is happening and how we make it happen. We invite all to attend, it is not just for leaders. We are doing ministry together and this will help us start out together.

Baby Bottle Campaign



Hope is partnering with Tri-County Pregnancy and Parenting Services in 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 protecting the unborn. You will find the bottles in the narthex to be picked up and filled with loose change, dollar

bills or checks during the month of February. During this time all of us are asked to pray for the clients visiting the pregnancy centers. Please return the bottles to church by Sunday, February 27.

Small Groups

There are a number of opportunities to join a Small Group that are open and new groups are starting up. If you would like to find a group to get plugged into, or would be willing to host a group yourself, make a note on one of the green Welcome Cards at church, call Pastor Jeff at the Church Office, or Beth Propp who will be listing our openings and schedules.

Can You Push a Button?

Slide Training- There will be a training on the video computer Saturday, February 19 at 10:00am. IF YOU CAN PUSH A BUTTON, then we need you! Please contact Brad Winn (bradwinn@gmail.com) if you are able to attend. The training is for both novices and experienced technicians!

Camp Auction

Saturday Evening

March 19

Starting at 5:00 p.m.

Share punch and fellowship and use the time to place bids early and often for the Silent Auction.

Chili Cook-off Supper at 5:30

You are invited to prepare a pot of chili to share. We are looking for a number of chili entries for our contest. It is a fun time of tasting and enjoying a great meal together. Not a chili-maker? You can bring items to go with the chili. Watch for full details later.

Live Auction

- We get down to the business of raising money to help kids go to camp this summer. Camp is important and we want to help families with the expense. We don't want anyone to stay home because of the cost.
- The auction is always a fun time with lots of laughs as we work to make it possible for kids to go to camp.
- Come prepared to bid and make it successful.

Donate Items for the Auction

What can you donate to for the auction? You may have a skill or resource others are looking for. Offer your services or resource. Some suggestions -

- Tickets to a major event or sports event
- Use of a summer cottage for a week/few days
- Dinner and a play, Gift card for services or goods
- Transportation to/from the airport
- Car washing, dog sitting or walking, house cleaning
- Yard work, lawn mowing, snow shoveling
- Hotel stay using loyalty points
- Airline trip using frequent flier miles
- Pie of the month, Cookies of the month
- Tools, decorations, furniture, handmade items

Bring your family and friends!

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 Through February with Brian Brecheisen leading the 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 who 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.

Spring Event for Women

Where: Evangelical Covenant Church
3600 So. 9th Street Lafayette, IN 47909

When: Friday April 8, 2011 at 5:00 PM EDT
-to- Saturday April 9, 2011 at 3:00 PM EDT

"Refresh, Refocus, Rejoice!"

We will *Refresh* with connections and laughter, *Refocus* with a fresh message from God's Word, learning and creative outreach and *Rejoice* as we celebrate the things God has done in and among women of our Conference.

Friday evening will include supper, praise song karaoke, a smoothie bar and laughter with Ruth Hill, our guest stand-up comic!

Saturday will be a very full day with *worship* led by flutist Jillian Yu, *inspiration* from Ruth Hill and *creativity & activity* in fast-paced break-out sessions led by women passionate about their ministry areas, and *celebration!*

Registration cost is \$30.

Please see Kim Olsen if you have questions. How about a carload going to this event??

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.

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

Youth activities are noted in the Sunday bulletin.

Crystal Lake Food Pantry

Hope's day to serve at the food pantry will be Wednesday, March 9. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

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

Saturday Evening - 5:30 p.m.

WORSHIP

You are always invited to attend our Saturday Evening Worship — just because it is convenient for you — because you want to — it meets your need. Come on along and invite someone to come with you. The current topic is *Masquerade* (putting the façade aside).

Concert For The Hungry

Saturday, February 26 - 7:30pm
Trinity Baptist Church (Hwy 31)

Free concert hosted by the Blacksmith Project, a grouping of local Christian artists. A free-will offering will be taken to buy food to supply regional food pantries.

Scout Sunday

It was very nice to see our Scouts in uniform on Sunday, February 4. Even Pastor Jeff came in uniform! They assisted with bulletin distribution and with the offering.

Your Church Leaders

Church Chair - Tim McNaughton

Church Vice Chair

also Board of Spiritual Life Chair - Al Winn

Connect Coordinator - Lori Nicholas

Grow Coordinator - Paulette Westberg

Serve Coordinator - Cathy Mellinger

Prayer

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

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

Do you sense a need for prayer? Please contact Pastor Jeff or submit a green Welcome Card (Sunday morning). The prayer team wants to support you in prayer.

Your prayer requests are always welcome.

Men's Ministry

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

Iron Sharpens Iron Conference for men

Saturday, March 19 in Rockford.

Please see Pastor Jeff for details and registration.

Let's Celebrate Together

February Birthdays

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

February Anniversaries

21 Tom and Judy Jorgensen 1968

- This is your opportunity to help your friends at Hope celebrate their important day.
- If we have missed your special day, please let us know using a green Welcome Card. Thanks.



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

Momology: The Art and Science of Mothering

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 Brochures are now available in the narthex.

Plan to attend the **Camp Auction** to help us raise funds to assist kids in going to camp: March 19.



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

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

Crystal Lake Food Pantry to Gain Weight.

The Adventure Club ministry will be collecting non-perishable items for the Crystal Lake Food Pantry. Throughout the month of February clubbers are encouraged to participate in the annual service project. All food items collected will be weighed. Clubbers will try to guess the total weight of donations. We hope to collect over 500 lbs of food. If you wish to donate, a collection box can be found in the church narthex.

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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 February

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

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

February 20 - "Love Your Enemies"
(Matthew 5:38-48) Testimony Sunday

February 27 - "What, Me Worry?" (Matthew 6:24-34)

March 6 - "Awe-full Worship" (Matthew 17:1-9)
Transfiguration Sunday
Communion Sunday

March 13- Beginning of a 5-Week Sermon Series &
Small Group Study called "R-12: True Spirituality"
based on Romans 12.

On the Covenant Calendar

February 20 - Covenant Founders' Day

March 4 - World Day of Prayer

March 6 - Transfiguration Sunday
Camping Ministries Sunday

March 9 - Ash Wednesday

March 13 - First Sunday in Lent
Paul Carlson Partnership Sunday

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

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
February 25
to Dale.hopehap@sbcglobal.net for the
March 2011 issue of *Hope Happenings*.

Challenge from the Church Chair

- At the recent Annual Meeting of the congregation the chair, Tim McNaughton, challenged each one to find a place to serve in the name of Jesus during 2011. Your service would not be arranged by the church. There are lots of organizations asking for volunteer help. We can go and serve and let our lives show Jesus. You could serve once or all year.
- Many of the congregation are already serving. Keep it up! But, if you are not, look around for your opportunities.