



NEWS FROM HOPE

Hope Community Church / September 2011 / Vol. 1, Issue No. 9

This month

Our mission: To know
Jesus Christ and make
Him known by teaching
the Word and reaching
the world

www.hopecc.us
office@hopecc.us



Come join our
facebook group!

**September 4 - Prayer Rally (6pm
upstairs classroom)**

September 5 - Office Closed

**September 14 - AWANA begins
(6:15pm)**

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**HOPE COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

2425 Black Lake Blvd.

Olympia, WA 98512

REFLECTIONS

from Pastor Karl



“And she named the child Ichabod, saying,
“The glory has departed from Israel!...”

-1 Samuel 4:21

What happened? This church has departed from the clear teaching of Scripture. They are not simply soft on the Bible, they contradict the Bible and they disobey the Bible.

What’s the result? You may have heard of the name Ichabod. In my early days, all I knew of Ichabod was that he was a mysterious character in the novel Moby Dick. I’m referring to the Ichabod of the Bible. When Israel hit bottom and lost possession of the ark, the high priest and his son died on the same day. Bad day. The wife of the high priest’s son gave birth to a boy and named him Ichabod which means, “The glory of the Lord has departed.” You can find this story in 1 Samuel 4.

ICHABOD AND THE CHURCH

I went to a church yesterday that I had visited a few times when I was in college. In other words, I hadn’t seen this church in thirty years. Back in the day, this church had a very good reputation. They had bench seating all around the perimeter inside the church. The times I went, that’s where I expected to sit if I could get a seat.

Yesterday I visited a dead church. Not dying but dead. I thought I had the time wrong but after the service began, people trickled in and eventually it was just under

half full. Don’t misunderstand – low attendance does not necessarily mean a church is dead. The associate pastor fell asleep during the pastor’s sermon but a poor sermon doesn’t mean a church is dead.

What I experienced was something real but not visible – it seemed to be that the Holy Spirit was no longer present in this church. Thirty years ago I saw God at work in an exciting church. Yesterday, God was absent. Plain and simple.

As I sat in this church yesterday, I felt as if Ichabod should be written over the entrance. I don’t boast in Hope Community Church, but I grieve for the church which has lost its love for our Lord Jesus Christ. No matter how many changes come our way at Hope, we can never ever lose our love for our Lord Jesus Christ and His Word entrusted to us.

- Pastor Karl



Grandpa?" "Yes, Aber." "Tell us 'bout The time you got in trouble out Behind Bethsaida hills, when you Were just a kid. Okay?" "Me too, Grandpa! Can I stay up and hear It too?" "Well, Barnabas, I fear It's sort of late for you, young man." "But I can stay awake! I can! I listened last year from my bed . . . I mean . . . Last night when mama read I stayed up. Please, Grandpa!" "Well, let Me see. I'll tell you what. You get Grandpa a pillow for his feet, And snuggle here and be real sweet, And I'll just try to keep it short. We'll call this Grandpa's 'Short Report.'"

Some sixty years ago when I Was nine, I thought I would defy My father's word." "Defy? Grandpa, What's that?" "Defy? Well, little Ba, It's just plain disobey, that's all. My father warned me not to fall For lies." "What lies, Grandpa?" "O, lies Like:

God's no fortune, God's no prize
God's got boredom in his eyes.
Come with us, we'll make you wise:
Stolen bread is sweet to eat,
Stolen fish is easy meat."

"D'you make that up, Grandpa?" "No sir! Along the western shore there were Some kids back then who got their kicks From stealin' bread and playin' tricks On fishermen. And every time I went to market with my dime For bread and fish, they'd chant their song And try to make me go along:

Stolen bread is sweet to eat,
Stolen fish is easy meat.
Then you take your father's cash,
Make yourself a little splash.

My father warned me not to play
With them, or steal or lie. He'd say,

A boy that's got to steal for fun
Has never seen what God has done.

A boy that needs to steal a cake
Has never seen what God can make.

And he was right. My eyes were blind,
Until one day I saw the kind
Of thing that God can do. I snatched
A baker's bag and then I matched
It with a fisher's sack." "You mean
You stole 'em, Grandpa?" "Stole 'em.
'Tween
These very fingers. Then I flew
Like crazy to the hills and through
Bethsaida vale. And there I found
A welcome sight: a crowd around
Ten thousand strong, a perfect place
To hide. No one would know my face,
Or what I'd done. That's what I thought,
At least.

But then the Teacher caught
My eye." "You mean, Jesus, Grandpa?"
"Yes, Barnabas, the very Son
Of God. I thought at first I'd run.
He knew exactly what I'd done.
His eyes were like a trumpet blast
Of truth. He knew from first to last.
(The Lord can read a boy the way
A boy reads books.)" "But did you stay,
Grandpa, or did you run?" "I tried
To run, but couldn't. Something died
Inside. And even when I saw
Him point, I simply stood in awe,
That he could know.

His servants came:
'Hello, young man, you got a name?'
'My name is John.' 'Well, John, the Lord
Would like to use the lunch you've stored
There in your sacks.' 'My lunch? O,
these!
Yes, sure! Here take them all, O please!
I'll be just fine. Please take them all.'
'Let's see. Five loaves, two fish. You're
small
For such a hefty lunch. I 'spose
You meant to share.' 'The Teacher knows,'
I said.

And so the Lord took bread
That I had swiped, and prayed and fed
Five thousand men before my eyes.
And as the sun went down, the skies

Turned somber with the stormy clouds
And Jesus sent away the crowds,
And walked up in the hills alone
To pray. He knelt down by a stone."
"Grandpa, how do you know he knelt?"
"I followed him. Because I felt
That maybe he could make it right.
He heard me stumbling in the night
And called, 'John, come, I'm over here.
It's pretty late. Have you no fear
To roam the hills at night?' 'I do.
But I just had to talk to you.
How did you know that it was me?'
'I prayed that you would come.' 'Really?
You know I stole the bread?' 'I know.'
'And fish.' 'Yes.' 'Where else could I go?'
'What would you like to have tonight?'
'I thought perhaps you'd make it right.
Is there a chance for me to be
A righteous man some day, and free
From all my sins, and used by God
For good, perhaps like Aaron's rod?
I robbed an old man by the sea.
Can you do anything with me?'

'Did you not understand the sign?
Did not ten thousand people dine
Today? If I can take your bread,
And see ten thousand people fed;
If I can take a boy that's dead,
And lift him from his coffin bed;
If I can still a storm tonight,
Then, John, I can make all things right.

A boy that's got to steal a cake
Has never seen what God can make.
But now you've seen it with your eyes:
That God's a fortune, God's a prize."

"What happened then, Grandpa?" "It's late
Aber, I think we better wait..."
"GRANDPA! What happened?" "Jesus
walked
Out on the sea and simply talked,
And all the wind and skies obeyed,
Just like the bread — and boys — he
made.

Light candle one now, Abraham,
And don't wake up this little lamb.
Burn bright and quiet as you sleep
And let the lesson sink in deep."

Youth News

SEPTEMBER 2011

As we begin the month, I am again drawn to the thought that, as a youth ministry, we have had the honor of having our students all to ourselves and not in school. It was an amazing summer of building them up and instructing them in the scriptures. Yet here we are again in September, sending them back into their schools where, as Bible believing Christians, they will be the minority.

So, what's the big idea?

What is the point of their living their life honoring God and on display for their friends, teachers, and family to see?

Coram Deo.

What? Huh? That's not even English!

Correct! It is an old Latin phrase meaning: Before the face of God.

So, to live a life Coram Deo according to theologian R.C. Sproul means, "To live in the presence of God is to understand that whatever we are doing and wherever we are doing it, we are acting under the gaze of God. God is omnipresent. There is no place so remote that we can escape His penetrating gaze."

Therefore we are not sending our beloved students back to school where they can live their, "other life." No, No! Their *entire life* is on display before the "face of God" and therefore nothing in their life is secular. It is all sacred!

Each one of us struggles with the temptation to compartmentalize our lives into our "Christian world" and our "normal world." If we do this, we miss the point. Our life was never meant to be fragmented into pieces but to be lives wholly, fully, and ultimately unto Jesus Christ, who is Lord.

"That in all things God might be glorified." 1 Peter 4:11

-Pastor Nate



Do you know this rebellious youth leader?

Brady Rossnagle

High School leader
Guy's small group leader
Photography buff
Fantastic Hair

High School

SNL
Sundays

7pm-9pm

HUB

Middle School

Wildside
Tuesdays

7pm-8:30pm

HUB

College

Wednesdays

8:30pm-10pm (new time starting Sept. 14)

Ron & Cathy Newell's house

Sunday School

Jr. and Sr. Doxa
Sundays

9am-10am

HUB

Small Groups

Meet during the week
Contact Nate to get plugged in

ypnathan@hopecc.us

Website

www.hopestudentministry.com

Kid's Connection

Do you know the Cubbie's theme song?

Do you know what the S in Sparks stands for?

What exactly does a T&T do?



AWANA is starting on September

14. Awana helps churches and parents work together to develop spiritually strong children and youth who faithfully follow Jesus Christ. Our programs offer a proven approach for evangelizing and discipling kids in the church and community.

As a ministry leader for 60 years, AWANA is making an impact. A recent national survey found AWANA to be as important to our alumni's spiritual

foundation as all other church activities combined. Among alumni who participated in our programs for at least six years, 92.7 percent still attend church at least weekly as adults!

Each week, more than 1.5 million kids ages 2 to 18 participate in AWANA. Over 12,000 churches in the U.S. and more than 10,000 internationally run AWANA programs that change young lives through biblical truth.



Register now! Go online to www.hopecc.us and follow the kid's connection link. Hurry - our church's program fills up fast!

AWANA meets Wednesdays from 6:15pm-8pm.



Where do my kids go?

Cubbies: the first two years before Kindergarten

Sparks: K - 2nd grade

T&T: 3rd grade - 6th grade

There are many opportunities to serve in this great ministry! Call Janelle Gibbs 481-3060 for more information!

WOODSHOP UPDATE



Check out the new building!

PRAYER TEAM

I have a lot of heroes. One of my favorites is right here at Hope Community Church. See if you can guess who she is.

She lives life with joy and gladness. She loves and praises her husband lavishly. She never stops reaching out to other women, young and old. You might never guess that her physical heart is very fragile. She is brave and unafraid of the future. "She can laugh at the days to come." (Proverbs 31:25)

She gives without measure. She sees the needs of the widows and

reaches out to them with weekly rides, and weekly visits to them in their homes. She is a proud member of the "older folders," who fold and stuff your bulletins every week, without ever seeking recognition. She volunteers at Black Lake Bible Camp whenever they have mailings to be taped and labeled.

She is a joy to have in multiple small groups, sharing her wisdom and experience, and loving and listening to the other members. She prays continually, she ministers on the Prayer Team.

And until last month she put together the Prayer Calendar, weaving Hope activities, personnel, missionaries, community ministries, and Scriptures to help us pray more consistently and effectively.

When you see her next, please thank her for her love and care for all of us. Congratulate her on her 45th Anniversary with Ray (Aug. 7). **Celebrate Joy Evans, such a precious gift from our loving Father to our Hope family.**

- Sheryl Noble



Women's Ministry

Simplify Your Spiritual Life

Women's Retreat - October 7-9, Black Lake Bible Camp

Come for a weekend of rest and renewal at Black Lake Bible Camp's annual women's retreat. Listen to great speakers, experience beautiful worship, attend informative workshops, and enjoy all the fun things the camp has to offer such as hikes, trails, crafts, and the lake.

Register ASAP at www.blacklakebiblecamp.com. Contact Sheryl Noble for more information - russ.and.sheryl@gmail.com

This year's speaker: Elizabeth Inrig



Want to get involved in a women's Bible study? Now is the time!

Fall brings about the renewal of many of our women's studies, as well as some brand new ones! So pick a day and topic that appeals to you and join us!

Woman of God: How Can We Become Women of God?

This ten part Bible study by Intervarsity helps us learn how to develop Godly traits. Open House will be **Sunday, September 25** led by Lynley Olson. Contact her for more information and to register for childcare: 570-8080.

Mom2Mom: Finding Joy In All You Are

A six part series with two different times to meet your busy schedule! We start **Sunday, September 18 from 6:30pm-7:30pm and Tuesday, September 20 from 12pm-1pm**. Childcare will be provided. Contact Kim Moore for the Sunday group (moore.kim@gmail.com) or Crystal Mazzuca for the Tuesday group (nateandcrystal@mac.com)

The Gospel of Mark: The Service, The Sacrifice, and Success of The Servant

This in-depth Bible study will go through the Gospel using questions, lively discussions, applications to person life, and lecture method. Taught by Sue Nomensen **Tuesdays 9:30am-11:30am starting September 20**. To register and for childcare, contact Sue at 352-9170.