



NEWS FROM HOPE

Hope Community Church / November 2011 / Vol. 1, Issue No. 11

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!

November 3-14 - Israel Trip

**November 11 - Office closed
(Veteran's Day)**

**November 13 - Mission Team
meeting @10:45am**

**November 19 - Homemade
Thanksgiving Potlucks @5:30pm**

**November 24-25 - Office closed
(Thanksgiving)**

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**HOPE COMMUNITY
CHURCH**

2425 Black Lake Blvd.

Olympia, WA 98512

REFLECTIONS

from Pastor Karl



Marriage matters. It matters to God and it matters to His people. It will always matter.

relationship itself. Marriage is something that makes the leaving of parents a worthy pursuit.

The primary reason we hold marriage in high regard goes beyond a personal desire for marriage or the research that indicates the practical value of marriage or even the modeling for the next generation. We in the church hold to marriage with endearment because it is so important to the heart of God. Marriage is one of many values that matters to God yet has suffered a decline in value in our culture. If marriage falls by the wayside, it won't be the last thing to fall.

The cultural battle regarding marriage is not simply connected to the issue of husband and wife, it's connected to the legitimacy of a value system derived from God's Word that is now perceived to be archaic.

One thing you can do to counter the tide of cultural accommodation is invest in your marriage. I enjoyed taking you through the lessons of Nehemiah who led the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem. When he was faced with distractions, he replied, "*I am working on a great project and cannot come down.*" I hope more people in the church will draw a protective line around their marriage and say to distractions: I am working on a great project and it is called, my marriage.

A great thing Christians can do is to *so* invest in their marriage that a watching world is looking at a marriage with respect and high regard. Wouldn't it be a great thing if Christians were the ones people sought out for advice in keeping marriages strong?

-Pastor Karl

MARRIAGE MATTERS

Is marriage on its way out?

Some suggest that America is on the way to becoming a postmarriage culture. This doesn't mean that no one gets married but that marriage is no longer viewed as necessary. Our culture has debated, voted and argued over the validity of marriage and the value of keeping marriages intact.

Once again, our state has pushed legislation through that will ultimately serve to challenge marriage. This attitude of accommodation is beginning to find its way into the church.

One Sunday a gentleman who was a one time guest asked me, "Where does it say in the Bible that marriage has to be

between a man and a woman?" He had a decent point. The Bible does not have the words, "Marriage must be between a man and a woman," but it does have that value. This is not a weak defense. When the value is normative, the correlating action is assumed to be prescribed.

If you look into the book of beginnings, the book of Genesis, on page one you read some very familiar words – *In the beginning, God created*. Then we have the detail of the creation. On page two you read of marriage – *For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife*. For what reason?

None is given in the Scripture. The "reason" must be for the marriage

From The Music Desk

Today I realized that it is “news article” time once again. What to write about that will be somewhat interesting to any reader who decides to give this page some time? I put my chin in my hands here at my desk and stared blankly straight ahead. That’s when this idea came to me. Now, most people have nicely organized bulletin boards above their desks where they can keep their calendar dates or important reminders at a quick glance, while others may have attractive art or family photos to glance at during the day. I am pretty pathetic when it comes to the art of decorating, so if you come in to my office you will see several different push pins (yes... blue, green, white and clear pushpins) holding up six scrap pieces of paper. Upon first glance it really does look ridiculous. A white wall just waiting to be beautified and I have ruined it with post-it notes. However, I’d like to share what I have written on these six pieces of paper so you may see where I am going:

...that I be consumed with a love for God that burns so strongly on the inside that it cannot help but explode outward in passionate songs, sounds, and service for God.

*“All our difficulties are only platforms for the manifestation of God’s grace, power and love.”
Hudson Taylor*

Psalm 21:6,7 “Surely You have granted me eternal blessings and made me glad with the joy of Your presence. For I trust in the Lord; through the unfailing love of the Most High I will not be shaken. Be exalted, O Lord, in Your strength, we will sing and praise Your might.”



“The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life” - John 6:63

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in Your will, and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your Name. Amen.

Trusting God is never the wrong choice.

The lasting characteristic of a spiritual woman is the ability to understand correctly the meaning of the Lord Jesus Christ in her life and the ability to explain the purposes of God to others. The overruling passion of her life is Jesus Christ. Never allow anything to divert your life from your insight in Jesus Christ.

To me, these words are artwork. I see beauty when I look at my wall. These are sayings that help “transform me by the renewing my mind.” I may add a family picture or two in the near the future, but I think the post-it notes will be staying.

~Julie



Youth News

NOVEMBER 2011

I have found recently that I am not nearly as young as I used to be. Now, I know some of you are thinking, "Thirty is old? C'mom Nate!" True! But, since adopting our son Noah last month, getting up in the middle of the night and changing diapers is for some reason harder than it was seven years ago when Judah was a baby.

So I am getting old! Yep I said it...OLD!

Now as I age (season, ripen, etc...) something continues to prove itself true...teenagers are always the same. They are in such a difficult and tumultuous place in life. So what we do for them here at the church is supremely valuable.

There is a purpose to all we do:

1. Youth group(s) - A place for our students to connect with God and relationally with each other.
2. Small groups - A place for our students to ask questions, be prayed for, and experience the love of Jesus.
3. Activities - An opportunity for our students to realize that God isn't calling them into boring and stale religion, but rather an exciting life of

adventure following and ENJOYING Christ.

4. Mission trips - Our students are not 'have nots' - they have the Holy Spirit in their heart, therefore they are commanded to share God with others. It is not just a job for the hired holy people.

When you think of our students and are praying for them, have these on your mind and heart. We live in the loudest culture in the history of the world. These kids are being bombarded with lies in their culture, schools, and media every second of every day. I realize that here at Hope we cannot be the loudest influence in their life...but we strive in prayer and work as hard as we can to be the most compelling and influential one.

"I speak the truth in Christ, I am not lying, my conscience bears witness in Christ Jesus." - Romans 9:1

-Pastor Nate

High School

SNL

Sundays

7pm-9pm

HUB

Parent Meeting: Nov. 6 @ 5:45pm in the HUB

Sky High: Nov. 12

Middle School

Wildside

Tuesdays

7pm-8:30pm

HUB

Parent Meeting: Nov. 1 @ 6pm in the HUB

College

Wednesdays

8:30pm-10pm

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

WOODSHOP UPDATE



We are so excited to see the steady progress on the building, and we hope you are too! Many of you were able to take a tour of the building last Sunday and were able to see the progress for yourself. BPCI, our general contractor, continues to stay on schedule while maintaining the high quality standard of work they are known for.

There are a few things that we are responsible to provide that are coming up quickly. We will need to provide volunteers to paint the interior the week or so after Thanksgiving. Second, Tom Ewert has graciously volunteered to take the lead in our flooring, (carpet and tile) which we are also responsible for installing. This will also take place the week or two after Thanksgiving. We know this is a very busy time of year for everyone, but many hands make light work. Even if you can give just a few hours or a few days, we will put you to work. More information will be coming soon via the website and our church email list.

The A Team (aesthetics team) was blown away last week by God's provision! We have the opportunity to purchase carpet for the building for \$1500 that would normally cost \$15,000 and it works with the color scheme they already chose. We serve an awesome God that cares for the details **we care so much about**, because **he loves us so much**. We have truly been blessed. We are working hard to be good stewards of the money our congregation is so generously giving to this project. We continue to pray for money to purchase the AV equipment needed and the chairs.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and we ask you continue to pray for the project, including safety, provision and opportunities to witness to the crew!

~The Building Team

PRAYER TEAM

Sit for just a minute and try to imagine what it would be like to see your mother beaten, your sister assaulted and thrown into prison, your brother's house burned down. This takes very little imagining for many Christians. And it takes no imagining for Jesus, but happens to Him every day. "My mother and my brothers are those who hear the word of God and do it." (Luke 8:21)

Often, we American Christians are blind to the suffering that our brothers and sisters are enduring around the world, for the sake of

the Gospel. But this is our family! We can know and love them, and pray for and support them.

Sunday, November 13, is the International Day of Prayer for Persecuted Christians. That day, our prayer team will be hosting a special prayer event, led by Steve Morgan. It's a chance for us to lift our brothers and sisters up before the throne of our great God and Father. On that Sunday, the bulletins will each have prayer cards in them with the names and places of Christians who are persecuted throughout the world. We welcome you to bring your

card along and join us in the Worship Center at 5:00 PM.

- Sheryl Noble for the Prayer Team



Women's Ministry

Christmas Gala

"Preparing Your Heart and Home for Christmas"

Save the date! Enjoy an evening of dinner, fellowship, and celebration of Christmas as we enjoy festive performances as well as speakers about decorating your house and preparing your heart for this joyous season.

Join us on Saturday, December 3. Tickets will be sold in the lobby on November 13, 20, and 27.

MERRY CHRISTMAS TO OUR MISSIONARIES!

The Missions Team would like to encourage the congregation to remember our missionaries by sending Christmas cards. It may seem early to talk about Christmas, but for our overseas missionaries, it is just the right time. Especially for overseas missionaries, those Christmas cards are a wonderful reminder of our support and a special part of their Christmas celebration.

Therefore, **we will have set up in the lobby of the church by November 6th a special mailbox where you may place your Christmas cards to our missionaries.** The Missions Team will send them out in a group at the appropriate time in mid-December. We will focus on collecting cards for the overseas missionaries, but will also send to those missionaries in the US any cards that are contributed for them.

We will have a box of blank Christmas cards there for you to use if you haven't bought your Christmas cards yet (please don't drop off any blank cards). Please consider including a copy of your Christmas letter or a picture of your family. Children are welcome to participate by drawing pictures, making cards, etc. **We hope as many of you as possible will send a greeting of some sort and remind our missionaries that we support them with not only our money but also our love and prayers.**

Just a reminder: If you wish to send a financial gift to a specific missionary or money for them to use to buy Christmas presents, this should be sent by mid-

November directly to the sending mission agency clearly marked as a Christmas gift (non-deductible to you and non-taxable to them). If you send it in December, they will not usually receive the funds until January.

Missionaries Supported by Hope Community Church - Overseas

Mark & Naomi Hale (Poland)
Vance & Carol Johnson (Philippines)
Steve & Carol Lyons (Tanzania)
Fred & Audrey Otto (Brazil)
Mike & Rina Vanderpoel (Japan)
"Our Friends in a Restricted Access Country"
Megan Bodeutsch (South Korea)

Missionaries Supported by Hope Community Church - USA

Mark & Jan Halstrom (USA)
Kyle & Nancy Herr (USA)
Nathan & Margie Jacobs (USA)
David & Lois McMartin (USA)
Ron & Linda Sauke (USA)
Greg & Madelaine Smith (USA)



GET CONNECTED

Bible Studies

Hope offers many Bible studies and small groups during the week. What are you waiting for? Join one!

Sunday

Mom2Mom

6pm-7:30pm

Women

Women of God

7pm-8:30pm

Women



Tuesday

Gospel of Mark

9:30am-11:30am

Women

Mom2Mom

12pm-1pm

Women

(Day change coming the week of November 15)

Men's Small Group

6:30pm-8pm

Men (2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month)

A Woman's Heart, God's Dwelling Place (Beth Moore study)

7pm-8:30pm

Women



Thursday

The Book of Nehemiah

9:30am-11am

Mixed

Contact the church office for more information and to get plugged in.

Kid's Connection

Rain getting you down? Kids bouncing off the walls? Going a little stir crazy? Check out these websites for some great boredom busters and fun family activities!

familyfun.go.fun/magazine

crayola.com

veggietales.com

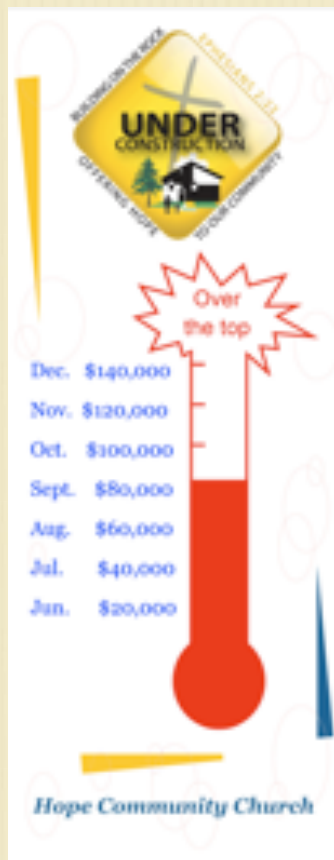
familycorner.com

tipjunkie.com/crafts-boredom-busters

parents.com/fun

kaboose.com

familieswithpurpose.com



FINANCIAL UPDATE

Building fund receipts through the first two weeks of October were just over \$20,300. Praise the Lord! We have already passed our monthly goal and are getting very close to being back on track to meet our construction goal. I ask that you prayerfully consider what you can do to help us go over top and purchase the remaining equipment we need.

The general fund giving through the end of September, however, was just slightly below budget. Expenses during the same time remain under budget by \$10,200.

Thank you for your faithfulness in financially supporting Hope.