

In Touch with Hope

919 Grand Ave

HOPE REFORMED CHURCH

Phone: 712-262-3016

www.spencerhope.org

September 15, 2009

Join us Sundays at 9:00 a.m. (sanctuary) or at 10:30 a.m. (Harbor of Hope)

Living the Adventure. . .

2 Changes and a Major Campaign

As we finish up fair week and get into the heart of our church year, here are a few changes and a major campaign to be aware of:

Kid's Connection Family Style

One major change is that we will not be having our weekly Kid's Connection program after school on Wednesdays. Rather, we will be having KID'S CONNECTION FAMILY STYLE: activities for whole families to participate in together about once a month (watch the newsletter and bulletin for the schedule). The goal behind these family events is to offer families the opportunity to interact and talk about Jesus without adding extra stress to already busy schedules.

The decision to stop the after-school program was not an easy one to make, but we feel it is the right thing to do at this time. We want to be a church that focuses on those things that will help us move forward in our vision. And that means recognizing that we can't do everything.

Kid's Connection has been a positive and successful program, but we are concerned that we cannot adequately staff it to achieve our goals; especially as we need many volunteers for our children's ministries on Sunday Morning, and our volunteers have only so much time to give. Right now, we feel that a focus on Kingdom Kids and Harbor Beach, combined with activities for families will help us be effective for Jesus.

Prayer and Praise

Another change on Wednesday nights is our prayer time. As we consider taking the Next Step in our relationship with Jesus, many of us have talked about improving our prayer lives. Our goal is for Wednesday night to be a time that can help us grow deeper in our prayer relationship with Jesus. And so, we are going to move our prayer time into the sanctuary and combine it with some praise singing. The atmosphere will be casual and worshipful. It will be an opportunity to pray for the prayer requests of our congregation, as well as to receive prayer for yourself.

We will continue to have ACTION meals—an opportunity for everyone in our church to let us do the cooking and have fellowship together. So come to eat between 5:15 & 6:30 p.m. and then stay to pray from 6:30 to 7:15 p.m.

Hello, Love

Finally, we are about to begin a sermon series I am very excited about.

One of my strategies is to use the fall—a time when school is starting and people are setting their family schedules—to do a series of messages on relationships. This year, I've decided to preach on 1 Corinthians 13—the Bible's famous love chapter—and we have also decided to make this series our fall Small Group Campaign. Beth and I have written a Bible Study and Jean is putting together DVDs with video clips.

We are making the Bible Study booklets available for \$5 each (to cover printing costs) and making the DVDs available to small groups for free. Please sign up on the lobby bulletin board for the number of books your small group will need. And, if you are not in a small group, please call Sue Holck (262-7676) or the church office (262-3016) so we can help get you connected.

Invitation cards will also be available the next several Sundays at church. This series should be excellent for inviting friends and neighbors who are not actively involved in a church. Everybody would like to learn more about love, and this series will be both inspiring and practical.



Upcoming Services

Sanctuary - 9:00 a.m.

The Junction – Harbor Room - 10:30 a.m.

Because You Asked....

Sept. 20 -

How Does the Old Testament Fit Into Christianity?

If all of the Bible is true, what about the weird laws in the Old Testament? Is the God of the Old Testament the same God as the God of the New Testament?

Sept. 27 - ***What Is Reformed?***

What is "Reformed?" What do we really believe, and where do we come from? What is our history, and what differentiates us from others (Catholics, Lutherans, Baptist, CRC, etc...)?

Hello Love...

October 4 - ***How to Succeed in Life***

Prayer Concern:

Clarence Birchard was admitted to the local hospital.

Congratulations...

...to Carol Hartig, she was named National Medical Assistance Educator of the Year in Houston, TX on Friday, September 11. She received the Golden Apple Award.

...to Chris Van Pelt and Snezana Anicic, who will be united in marriage on Saturday, September 26 in San Francisco. Wedding wishes can be sent to them at 32 Cunningham Place, San Francisco, CA 94110 or chrisandsnez.com

Thank You Note:

"We want to thank the many people of Hope Church who prayed for my mother and us this past month in her last days. The food, cards and support were greatly appreciated." *Dennis & Linda Brechwald*



CHILDREN'S CHURCH meets every Sunday morning (except the month of August) during the 9:00 a.m. service. Children ages 3-5 years old are welcome to participate. The children are dismissed prior to the sermon (check the bulletin).

The Children's Church Team share music and special stories from the Bible, children enjoy a time for creative expression, and each child receives a "blessing" at the end of their time together. Children's Church is located in the East hallway.

PRAYER & PRAISE

Beginning Wednesday September 23, the weekly prayer time at Hope Church will take the next step and we ask you to join us. Prayer and Praise will begin at 6:30 p.m. and will take place in the sanctuary. It will conclude by 7:15 p.m. The time will consist of praise songs and prayer. This is also a great place to seek prayer for yourself.



*Hello Hope friends,
Are you tired, run down, listless?
Are you worn-out at meal time?
Are you unpopular about the
middle of the week and feeling
drained?* The answer to all your
problems is in the Harbor
beginning Wednesday, Sept. 23.

ACTION MEAL will resume serving at 5:15 - 6:30 p.m. each and every Wednesday evening. New items on the menu, you don't have to think or cook, come alone, come as a couple, come with a friend, and even eat as a family! Remember, that is Wednesday, September 23!!

Do you throw your printer ink cartridges away? Why not bring them to the church office and we will recycle them at Staples. We get a \$3 credit for every cartridge we bring in which helps to purchase office supplies.

Luv Your Library

We have 2 items this month –



- First of all, you have probably noticed football season is here. For the men, (and the ladies) we have several good books by Kurt Warner and Tony Dungy.
- Second - We are discussing the start of a Christian Book Club here at Hope. An informational meeting will be held on Sunday, Sept. 27 at 10:45 a.m. in The Well (Fellowship Hall). Bring your coffee along. Call Marlis 262-7031 or Betty 262-3653 for more details.

What does real community look like? The small group team is inviting you to join them for a **Group Life Conference** being telecast at Good News Reformed Church in Sioux Falls on Saturday, October 24 featuring speakers Henry Cloud, Andy Stanley and others. There is no cost to attend. Call Sue Holck (262-7676) or the church office for more information. Registration deadline is September 19.

If you would like to have a meeting (team, prayer, small group, etc.) in the church at any time please contact the church office (262-3016 or hrc@spencerhope.org) so we may put it on the church calendar to avoid confusion and interference in setting up rooms. Thank you!

CALLING ALL COOKS! Do you like to cook? Then we have a ministry for you! We would like to provide a week of meals to new moms within our church family. We are asking you only to provide one meal during that week. If you would like to be part of this ministry, please contact Lynda at the church office (262-3016) and she will add your name to the list. If you have any questions, please contact Amanda Flikkema, Women of Hope New Mom Coordinator.



You are invited to a **Baby Shower** for Sara Sparks on Saturday, September 26 from 2-4:00 p.m. at Hope Church. They are registered at Wal-Mart & Target. Hosted by Katie Kardell, Carol Seaman, Megan Friedow and Kristy Luke.

Keep in Touch with
Our College Kids



College Note-a-Month

We are in need of participation in a letter writing/ email campaign to our college students. Each month the student list will be rotated with participants sending a letter, note, or card to a different student. **We have 30 college students this year.**

SIGN-UP TODAY on the lobby bulletin board or call the church office (262-3016).

Nursery Schedule: Sunday, September 20

Jeff & Shelly Helmink, Greg & Dawn Spiess

Youth News

TRAVELING LOCK-IN for 6th – 12th graders



Mark your calendar - you won't want to miss this awesome event!!!! Saturday, September 26, at 5:30 p.m. we will be leaving Hope Church for a traveling lock-in that will travel until Sept. 27 at 7:00 a.m. We will be going to a bull riding event, pizza at 9:00 p.m., go-karts, bowling, volleyball, batting cages, and mini-golf. You need to sign-up in advance with Jay, and **registration closes on Sept. 20.** Cost if you come alone is \$45, if you bring a friend - cost for you is \$25 and cost for your friend is \$25. This event is one of our four outreach events designed specifically so that your friend has an awesome time.

SR. HIGH YOUTH GROUP

will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday, September 20.

6TH, 7TH & 8TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP

will meet on Wednesday, September 23

The Lord's Laughter

Institution Criteria

During a visit to the mental asylum, a visitor asked the Director what the criterion was which defined whether or not a patient should be institutionalized.

"Well," said the Director, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the patient and ask him or her to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," said the visitor. "A normal person would use the bucket because it's bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"Actually," said the Director, "A normal person would just pull the plug."

"So tell me, do you want a room with an East view or a West view?"



Saturday, October 10

8:30 a.m. registration at Hope Church
9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. work projects

Yard work & minor home repairs
for the elderly,
Habitat for Humanity (if needed)
Other projects lined up as
needed, depending on number
of participants



BE THE CHURCH

&

put your FAITH IN ACTION
on this date in our community through
simple demonstrations of God's love.

Sign up on the lobby bulletin board & we
will disperse in groups of 4-6 that morning.

Bring your gloves, rakes, etc.

Come as a family, couple,
friends, small group, or individual
- work as a family of God!

Childcare provided for those
under school-age.

For questions call Jean Blok at
712.262.3016

or email at jblok@spencerhope.org





You are invited to join us starting on Sunday, October 4 for 8 weeks as we look at **1 Corinthians 13** - the Bible's famous "*love* chapter" - and learn the ways of *love*.

You will be inspired, challenged, and motivated to put *love* into action in the relationships that matter most in your life.

There are Bible study books and DVD's available, please sign up on the lobby bulletin board as a small group as to how many books and DVD's your group would like. It is recommended that each person has a book. The cost for a book is \$5 and payable to the church office. Please make checks payable to Hope Church and on the memo line please put Love Bible Study book.