

# The Anchor

*Celebrating 25 Years of Ministry in Indianapolis*

## “Time Keeps on Ticking”

It’s hard to believe that we have entered a new year and another year has passed. Yet, it seems that the older we get the faster the clock seems to tick, the days seem to race and the years seem to fly. Even though time marches on, we need to remember that clocks are only human, calendars are of the earth, and time is self imposed. In heaven, I don’t believe there will be any clocks, calendars, or time limits. The Psalmist describes the timeless nature of God when he wrote, “...from everlasting to everlasting you are God.” (Psalm 90:2b)

In order that this New Year does not conquer and control us, we need to ask God to wind our clock of life with strength and to mark our calendars with wisdom so that time will lift us up and God might make us useful instruments today and thus prepare us for the time when our clocks wind down and stop.

Time is like life – a wonderful, invisible and indefinable reality, that God makes available to us afresh each new year. Each person receives an equal amount of this precious “income” but everyone does not use it equally. Some people “kill time” which really means they waste the opportunities which God gives them. Other people speak of having “no time”, which is really another way of saying they have no time for what you are asking of them. Also, no one can store time. The same amount is given to us each day.

Ruth Graham wrote the following thoughts on the New Year. Ponder the words she has written:

*“A New Year is now here – Lord Jesus – expectantly I enter it not knowing what is ahead – I lean on You.  
 If there be happiness – let me wear it graciously.  
 If there be sorrow – let me wear it bravely.  
 If it be frustration – let me wear it trustingly.  
 If it be wealth – let me wear it thankfully.  
 If it be poverty – let me wear it proudly.  
 If it be sickness – let me bear it cheerfully.  
 If it be health – let me use it serving You.  
 Lord Jesus – I do not ask for happiness – only joy.  
     I do not ask for wealth – only riches in You.  
     I do not ask for health – only strength from You,  
     So that whatever You send my way – in this New Year – I can face it leaning on You.”*

This New Year, may we ponder on the things God would teach us and may we shape our lives around His will and purposes.

Pastor Tom

# What's Happening at Hope?

## HOOP Stocking Project Report:

We put everything together with about 30 helpers.

We brought in a mountain of items for the stockings and items for storage. We filled up the large empty area and set up additional tables. We really had a good time and I think everyone was pleased with the combined effort. We filled several stockings having more to fill if they are needed and we will have extra for next year.

When we were leaving the security guard told me he had never seen anything quite like what we put together. He was amazed and almost to tears with appreciation of our effort and where the items were going.

Again, thank you so much for your effort and donations....they were all very much appreciated.

Sandi and all our HOOP volunteers.  
May God Bless You All!

## Current HOOP Needs List

Used Blankets

Plastic shower curtain liners

Large garbage bags

Zip-lock sandwich bags

Men's hats

Men's gloves

Men's LG, XL, XXL coats

Men's LG, XL, XXL sweatshirts and flannel shirts

Men's thermal underwear in LG, XL, XXL

Bottled water

Factory sealed single serving snacks

Men's white socks

Items may be placed in the HOOP box located in the narthex.

Thank you for helping HOOP help others in need.

## "Just Walk Across the Room"

Beginning Sunday, January 21<sup>st</sup>, and continuing until February 18<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Tom will be speaking on the subject of outreach and evangelism. The study is entitled, "*Just Walk Across the Room*".

In Adult Sunday School, John Madeja will be helping class members look at people's faith journey.

On Wednesday nights, Pastor Tom will be going through the study guide that comes with this series.

This guide has individual reflection questions as well as small group discussion questions.

Sunday Morning Worship messages will also explore this topic. (See sermon topics on page 3)

The goals for this study are:

- Learn to discern and listen to the Holy Spirit.
- Create deep relationships with people who may be living far from God
- Share your personal faith story in a compelling and non-threatening way
- Seize life's "grand vision"— fulfilling what we were created for.

Books and study guides will be made available. They are from the Willow Creek Association. This material will be made available Sunday, January 14<sup>th</sup> in the narthex.

This is a study every Christian can do. It can as easy as walking across the room.

### ✓ Check it Out!

The bulletin board across from the office is full of information on volunteer opportunities and conferences. There are many Christmas cards from friends of Hope. Be sure to stop by the board the next time you get a chance.

## 2007 Church Council

Don Masten	Chairman
Bill McAfee	Vice-Chairman
	Care & Fellowship
Wanda Anderson	Secretary
	Financial Secretary
John Bunge	Treasurer
Curt Sellke	Membership Team
	Publicity
Gary Nelsen	Christian Formation
Mark Carlson	Stewardship and Property
Laura Ruppert	Worship
Ann Carlson	Missions

The Church Council is YOUR council. Please seek them out, ask them questions, share ideas, offer service. Only together, can Hope Covenant become the church that God wants her to be.

## Upcoming Sermons

### January

- 7 – “How Good Is Good Enough” (Mark 10:17-31)
- 14 – “Analysis of Paralysis” (Acts 3:1-16)
- 21 – “The Single Greatest Gift”
- 28 – Pastor Andrew

### February

- 4 – “Living in 3D: Developing friendship; Discovering stories; Discerning God’s next step”
- 11 – “The Power of Story”
- 18 – “Living with Greater Vision”
- 25 – (John 15:1-17)

## January Anniversaries



- 2 Allen & Jill Bainbridge
- 31 Karl & Barb Rettig

## January Birthdays

- 3 Doug Hart
- 5 Phyllis Roskam
- 10 Scott Bunge  
Phil Kern
- 14 Colleen Kaat
- 15 Vania VanKirk
- 20 David Kiari
- 24 Jorge Silva
- 28 Sam Anderson



**Do you have suggestions of information you would like to see in the Anchor?**

*If you have ideas on how to improve this publication, or ideas for stories, or if you would be interested in contributing a story, please see Marcie Gates.*

**Have you seen the new website design?**

*Check out the new and improved Hope Covenant website. The site has a lot of information including upcoming events, youth group information and links to this newsletter. Check it out at: [www.hopecov.org](http://www.hopecov.org)*

# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

We are now moving into the Winter Curriculum for our Wednesday Night Kid's Club with FW Friends. Thanks to everyone who helped by teaching, cooking, planning, monitoring and flat out working hard this Fall. The children are really on fire, and your hard work has made that happen! Here's the schedule for the next couple months of FW Friends...

- January 10 – The Word Became Flesh
- January 17 – Satan Tempts Jesus
- January 24 – Jesus Performs His First Miracle
- January 31 – Jesus Teaches in a Synagogue

- February 7 – Jesus Rejected in His Hometown
- February 14 – A Miraculous Catch!
- February 21 – Jesus Teaches: Rewards
- February 28 – Jesus Teaches: Loving Enemies

# YOUTH MINISTRY

This winter and spring will be a fresh and exciting time for Youth and Children's ministry at Hope. We will have a new look and some new approaches to ministry as well as beefing up the things we're doing right now. As time changes and people change, so do ministries, and we are in the privileged position of getting to dream together what can and will be at Hope Covenant Church.



## DINNER WITH THE GATES'

Starting this week, Andrew, Marcie and Addison will be having the families of the Hope youth over to their home for dinner, one family at a time. We will enjoy a good home-cooked meal, talk about life and ministry and get to know one another a little better. We hope to make a habit of this, as youth ministry is more than just ministry to a bunch of youth—youth live within various social contexts, the primary being their family. We would love for this to be a time of ministry for the youth, parents and us! In fact, it's sort of like our next component...

## LIFE-ON-LIFE DISCIPLESHIP

Our youth have busy schedules and lives, and the need for flexible scheduling in ministry is more evident than ever. For this reason, we are rethinking the traditional weekly youth group format in favor of smaller discipleship groups that meet according to the availability of the youth and leaders of that group. We will, of course continue to do large group events together, as well as *Second Sunday*, but these will be monthly events, and discipleship groups would replace weekly youth group meetings. There will be training for interested discipleship group leaders.



## YOUTH SNOW CAMP 2007 @ HONEY ROCK CHRISTIAN CAMP

Departure: 11:00am This Friday!  
Return Home: 9:00pm Monday, January 15

## PLEASE PRAY FOR US ON OUR JOURNEY!

NOTE: The picture to the right is the actual album cover of a 2002 release. However, "Sweet Honey in the Rock" **will not** be performing at Snow Camp.

# It's easy to raise \$25 by working together.

## Support

Hope Evangelical Covenant Church

H&R Block will donate \$25 to our organization for each new client referred.

Helping Hope Evangelical Covenant Church has never been easier.



1. Go to a participating H&R Block office near you with your referral form.
2. Give the referral form to your tax professional.
3. Your organization will receive \$25.\*



**H&R BLOCK®**

\*Your organization is eligible to receive \$25 for each new client referred to a participating U.S. H&R Block office when that person pays for preparation of an original tax return between 1/1/07 and 6/1/07. A new client means a person who did not have his/her 2005 taxes prepared by H&R Block. Referral form must be presented prior to completion of Initial tax office interview. Amended returns do not qualify and H&R Block associates are not eligible. Allow approximately 8 weeks following end of program for delivery of check. Offer may not be combined with any other referral program or any coupon or discount offer.

## Support

Hope Evangelical Covenant Church

**As a new H&R Block client, your organization will receive \$25.**

To redeem this offer, visit a participating H&R Block office to have your taxes prepared between 1/01/07 and 6/1/07. To make an appointment or locate an office, call 1-800-HRBLOCK or visit hrblock.com.

### \$25 TO:

Hope Evangelical Covenant Church  
8615 Springmill Rd.  
Indianapolis, IN 46260



**H&R BLOCK®**

For office use:

4000-82569-40521

Non Profit ID

\*Your organization is eligible to receive \$25 for each new client referred to a participating U.S. H&R Block office when that person pays for preparation of an original tax return between 1/1/07 and 6/1/07. A new client means a person who did not have his/her 2005 taxes prepared by H&R Block. Referral form must be presented prior to completion of Initial tax office interview. Amended returns do not qualify and H&R Block associates are not eligible. Allow approximately 8 weeks following end of program for delivery of check. Offer may not be combined with any other referral program or any coupon or discount offer.

# January 2007 Church Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<i>1</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>	<i>6</i>
<b>7</b> 9:30AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship 6:00PM Youth Group	<b>8</b> 12:30 Women's Bible Study	<b>9</b> 7:00 PM Team Meetings 8:00 PM Council Meeting	<b>10</b> 5:30PM Family Dinner 6:30PM Adult Studies 6:30PM FW Friends 7:45PM Worship Team Rehearsal	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> SR High Snow Camp	<b>13</b> SR High Snow Camp
<b>14</b> 9:30AM Sunday School 10:30AM Worship NO YOUTH GROUP: Snow Camp	<b>15</b> 12:30 Women's Bible Study SR High Snow Camp	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> 5:30PM Family Dinner 6:30PM Adult Studies 6:30PM FW Friends 7:45PM Worship Team Rehearsal	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 9:30AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:00PM NO Youth Group	<b>22</b> 12:30 Women's Bible Study	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 5:30PM Family Dinner 6:30PM Adult Studies 6:30PM FW Friends 7:45PM Worship Team Rehearsal	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 AM Worship 6:00PM Youth Group	<b>29</b> 12:30 Women's Bible Study	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> 5:30PM Family Dinner 6:30PM Adult Studies 6:30PM FW Friends 7:45PM Worship Team Rehearsal			