



Find Hope. Experience God. Find Hope. Experience God. Find Hope. Experience God. Find Hope. Experience God. Find Hope. Experience God. Find Hope. Experience God.

HOPE EVANGELICAL COVENANT CHURCH

Grand Cities Mall
1601 17th Ave S.
Grand Forks, ND 58201

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JAN/FEB '12

VALENTINE'S DAY DINNER SHOW

Tired of the same old Valentine's Day events? Dinner out with the masses, waiting for a table only to be seated within inches of another party, or taking in a movie and sticking to the floor with ever step? Romantic.

Instead of enduring the fun of a traditional Valentine's Day date, shake it up and check out the HOPE Valentine's Day Dinner Show. On Tuesday, February 14th the Worship Center transforms into a romantic but fun getaway.

People from HOPE decorate tables with their own china and creativity, fill the table spots with friends and strangers, and enjoy music and entertainment provided by the HOPE worship team members. Not only is the atmosphere exquisite but the food is unparalleled. Better than anything area restaurants dish up.

The best part about the night is you don't need to have a "significant" other to fit in. Singles and couples alike enjoyed the songs, food, and laughter the evening brought.

Tickets go on sale soon. With a limited number of

tickets, make getting one or two a priority.

So mix up your Valentine's Day routine and spend the night at HOPE. Single or couple, check out the fun. Says Jim Dostal, Director of Creative Arts and in charge of the special evening, "You'll laugh, you'll cry, you'll be blessed."



FUN NIGHT OUT FOR SINGLES OR COUPLES

Tickets available by calling 772-1884

(Proceeds benefit HOPE Missions)

Ministry Recaps

OCTOBER

Over 800 people descended on HOPE for HOPEween.

NOVEMBER

HOPE Church honored Pastor Paul for his 20 years of service at HOPE.



DECEMBER

HOPE's Drama and Music Team performed "No Room at the Inn," an original presentation of the Christmas story in a 21st century setting.

Upcoming Dates

- JAN. 29 Trombone Choir Concert
- FEB. 3 HOPEkidz Family Fun Night
- FEB. 14 Valentine's Event
- FEB. 22 Ash Wednesday Service

GETTING THE WORD OUT ABOUT HOPE

Who works on the website at HOPE? Who decides where and how to advertise? Who does the newsletter? Although not the only entity involved, HOPE's Communication Team (CT) brainstorms with the best.

In the last few years the CT has helped HOPE redesign the logo, newsletter, and website as well as branch out into advertising on the radio and on billboards. In addition, they added and monitor Facebook and Twitter accounts. In 2012, besides all of the other new additions, HOPE will add a new bulletin design.

CT co-leaders, Eileen Zygarlicke and Julie Dostal, along with team members Brian Pabst, Chris Wink, Christie Anderson, and Jean Thompson and CT staff liaison and Executive Pastor Keith Becker meet monthly to help HOPE advertise both inside and

outside of the church to communicate HOPE to the Grand Cities region.

Starting in 2012, the CT will also roll out a new "Connections (yellow) Card." "Some of the changes in the new blue card are facelifts only. Others allow us to connect people to volunteer opportunities or find out how people found HOPE," Zygarlicke explains. "Despite all the changes, the mission of HOPE remains the same—to reach 10% of the unchurched people in the Grand Cities region. And that's where the Communications Team comes in—they communicate that hope to the region."

Are you interested in becoming part of the Communications Team by designing, writing, creating, or brainstorming?

Contact Eileen Zygarlicke at cezyg@gra.midco.net

CHECK OUT THE BULLETIN FOR UPCOMING EVENTS

Pastor Paul's Pen

I am convinced that a growing knowledge of and a devotion to God's Word is essential for our spiritual maturity in Christ. HOPE Church is continuing to strive toward being a biblical community in 2012.

First, we encourage everyone to participate in a daily Bible reading plan which will take us through the book of Acts and the Epistles in 85 days or at your own pace. This plan will be available in print at HOPE, on our website, and with your youversion Bible app. Throughout the ages the people of God have sought to develop the daily discipline of being in God's Word. This reading plan, along with others from HOPE, will help you establish this habit.



Beginning Sunday, January 22nd we will focus on the Letter to the Church of Ephesus. Our series will kick-off with guest teacher Klyne Snodgrass, a professor at North Park Seminary and author of the NIV Application Commentary: Ephesians. He will speak Sunday morning (an overview of Ephesians) and evening (Our life "in Christ") and Monday night January 23rd (Spiritual Warfare). This series and Dr. Snodgrass' teaching will give us an incredible opportunity to dig into this important letter for the Church. This will be a "bring your Bible, sermon notes, and pens" type series.

Watch for additional updates in our desire to become a People of the Book.

Your partner in the gospel,
Pastor Paul
Lead Pastor, HOPE Church

VOLUNTEER TIME

How many people does it take to run a church? More than most people realize. Some may think that's the responsibility of the pastoral staff—clean the church, run small groups, organize women's events, and work in the nursery. But the Bible is clear that isn't the case.

Bonnie Knight agrees. "God wants us to find meaningful ways to use the talents and abilities He gave us by serving in the church. It's up to all of us to find our place."

Recently Knight along with her team launched the Volunteer Service Station, a place where people at HOPE can connect to find meaningful places to serve in church. People interested fill out an Interest Inventory then they will be contacted by a ministry that seems to fit them.

"We have no shortage of volunteer opportunities," said Knight. "We want to make sure that we aren't just filling a slot, but instead connecting people with a ministry team that will be a good fit and fulfilling for them."

People interested in volunteering can stop by the Connections Center and visit with someone at the Service Station.

"We encourage everyone to try the process, get involved, and see how God uses their service to bring more meaning, fulfillment and fun to their lives. It may take several tries to find a good fit, but it's worth the effort" states Knight.

So how many people does it take to run church? Stop by the Volunteer Service Station. What you see may surprise you.



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: IT DOES A BODY GOOD

Who can resist the face of a young child, happy and contented, beaming while cuddled in your arms? Step into HOPE's nursery during any of the Sunday services and you'll see that and more.

The nursery cares for children 0-2 years of age. Once toddlers are three, they begin class time in the three-year-old room. Loretta Vobr, a volunteer nursery worker, has seen many babies age out of HOPE's nursery. "We usually have about 12 babies total in the nursery during the three services and up to 45 toddlers," Vobr explains.

With that many young ones around, volunteers are needed to keep up. "We need volunteers for all services, people who love little ones and realize how important the nursery is at HOPE," says Amy Frazier, Director of Children's Ministries.

Volunteers aren't baby sitters, however. They show the children the love of God. "We sing, read books, and love on the kids," explains volunteer Ken Cremer. "We encourage them that this is a good place to be, teach them to share and be kind to one another. We also give them security to let them know we're there for them like God is there for us."

Beyond providing a safe place for babies and toddlers, the nursery also provides security for moms and dads. "Parents are able to enjoy and participate in the worship service, knowing their child is being cared for," says Darin Lee, a nursery volunteer.



So if you love babies and want to connect with them regularly on Sunday mornings, check out the nursery. Darin Lee did and he's glad he made the effort to get involved.

"Children of this age are fun to be with. You grow attached to them when you see them consistently. We get to see so many baby milestones, like first steps, just by serving," states Lee. "Plus, it's a joy to serve with the other volunteers."

For more information on serving in the nursery, contact Amy Frazier at afrazier@gfhope.org or call 772-1884

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