

# The Messenger

Living Hope Baptist Church

December 2011

*From Pastor Dave's Heart . . .*

## **The Ministry Plan Awaits Your Approval**

I am delighted to bring you a ministry plan for next year that our staff and board unanimously support. **On December 4 the packets explaining the plan will be available for each family at the church.** We hope you will look over the packet and come to the Business meeting on Sunday, December 11 ready to give your input and ask your questions.

We are bringing you some changes in our ministry. You will notice that our proposed financial plan is greatly reduced from our current year. The 2011 plan totals \$189,188.00 and the proposal for 2012 is \$161,177.00. You might wonder how we could reduce it \$28,000 and guess at what we are not going to do. Our goal was to support all our current ministries and yet reduce spending to what we are currently giving. Our proposed plan meets those criteria. With one exception our staff will not receive less salary and our missionaries will continue the same support level. But examples of cuts we propose are to mission agencies. We will no longer give to schools and agencies such as Multnomah and Western Seminary and CBNorthwest, World Venture,

and Missions Door. In future years we may be able to pick those up again. But this allows us to reduce our mission's budget by \$5,000 in that one area while still supporting the people on the field. You can look through the Sharing proposal and see what we are suggesting.

Of course, the reason for these cuts is that we are not meeting our ministry plan for this year. We are in deficit spending of \$18,709 at the end of October. And we are not even spending the total amount of the financial plan for the current year. Right now the giving averages \$12,659 per month. Under the proposed financial plan we will need \$13,431 each month. You can see this is very close, and that is why I am delighted to bring you this plan. To demonstrate the change, this year's ministry plan requires \$15,766 each month. We are people of faith and as God gives us direction and passion for a new ministry, He will supply all we need to accomplish it. An example is how the Vision Team trip to Taiwan is being supported. We are doing His work!

**There will also be some change in staff ministry roles.** The Board asked me to itemize all



*Pastor David Schutjer*

that I do in my ministry role. Due to the fact that I am in the office and available a lot of the time, my work gradually grew. Many times when something needed to be done and given oversight, the easiest thing was to just do it. After a time, that became a new task for me. We all noticed that I am spending a lot of time in administration. Our plan is increase Pastor Andrew's hours (to 30 hours a week) and to reduce my hours by five. We have given Andrew increased pay for the work he will do. Andrew will grow into an administrative role along with his youth and children's leadership. He will spend most business hour mornings in the office so that he will be available to give administrative help.

Meanwhile, I will concentrate on (1) teaching and preaching, (2) prayer, (3) pastoral care, and (4) visionary leadership. This is enough for any pastor to do. Be assured that I will continue to bring to my senior pastoral leadership the energy, vitality, and vision that is needed in God's Church.

(continued on page 2)

I don't think you will notice any change in my role unless you need some direction on an administrative issue.

In order to reduce the total amount of the financial plan, each of our leaders cut to the bone in their areas of responsibility. My part was to reduce my salary in a substantial way. In our "radical" commitment, one of the challenges was to sacrificially give to a ministry that you felt was your passion. There is no ministry I feel is more my passion than what we do together at Living Hope. So Gladys and I are giving to Living Hope by reducing my salary. We are in a financial position to do this and I am happy that we can offer this help at a time our church (like all the other non-profits in America) can use it, and we are able to continue all our ministries.

Let me assure you the Board members were not in favor of this step. We had to "talk" about it at length. We made some adjustments from my original proposal, but we believe God has lead in this direction. This will give me some more time with Gladys, and we will feel free to take a little more vacation time. God is good!

Joyfully serving,  
Pastor Dave



## ANGEL TREE GIFTS AND BREAKFAST

Thank you for taking an angel from the tree and remembering a prisoner's child this Christmas. Please return all wrapped gifts to the tree by Sunday, December 4<sup>th</sup>. Pray that they can come to the breakfast, and we can have time with them building relationships and sharing Jesus. Thank you!



***Taiwanese Tidbit:*** Taiwan is located on the Pacific Ring of Fire. One of the worst earthquakes to hit Taiwan was a 7.6 magnitude in 1999. This is commonly referred to as the 921 Earthquake. It killed 2,415 people and injured over 11,000.

## ***Heffner Requests and Praises***



Pray for the Christian outreach bands and the work of the Upper Room Ministry Center. Brother James and Brother Kooper serve there.



Pray for their interns that God would strengthen, teach, equip and fill them as they shine for Him in Taiwan.



Praise for the good family time, school time, and witness time they have had here in the States. They will be returning in January.



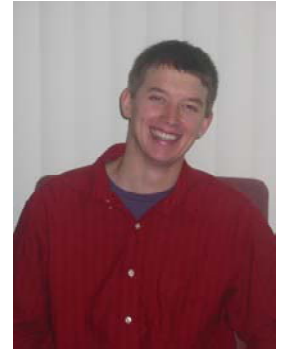
Pray for the pastors and evangelists that are working in areas to create a church among the Taiwanese.

# YOUTH

Have you ever thought about the words that Paul wrote, "I have become all things to all men so that by no means I might save some," in 1 Corinthians 9? I was pondering on this verse last night. The reason, I have been playing Pokémon (the card game) with my kids at home, and in a league full of other people ages 6 to adult. Is this a game that I would have chosen for myself to play? Not at all! But I sure am having fun with it and it is a great way to play with the kids. And of course, now I love it too!

But last night as I was thinking about this upcoming league night, I realized that it's not just an opportunity for me to hang out with London and Gavin, but it is also an opportunity to hang out with all these other people as well. Granted, not many of them are too concerned with much else besides the game, but some of them actually talk with you about other things, and I need to be ready to talk with them about Christ whenever the opportunity arrives. It may not come about, but when you are playing a game with a 12 year old, you never know where the conversation may lead. So be ready, no matter what you are doing, because in any situation, an opportunity may present itself to share Christ.

Oh, and by the way, if you ever want to get involved with any of the kids here at church, don't be afraid to pick up an interest in something they do just to hang out with them. Who knows what you may learn by picking up a new hobby, or how you may influence the Kingdom.



**Pastor Andrew  
Miller**

*If anyone  
is in  
Christ  
he is a  
new creation  
2 Cor. 5:17*

## WHO AM I?

I was born in Goldendale WA in April. After I attended Mt. View High School, I joined the US Navy and was stationed in Hawaii 8 years. I attended Anne Arundel Community College in Maryland and became an EMT and later attended Ashmead school to become a massage therapist. I now work in production in the electronics industry.

I have one brother and one sister and was married here at Living Hope on May 28 '06.

I have three kids - 2 boys and one girl. I love to read, Asian food, the color purple, my dog and the Christmas season all year round.

I like snowball fights, even though I have a tendency to hit my Mother-in-law in the face with them, even if I am not throwing at her.

I have been a member of Living Hope for 8 years.

(You can find my name somewhere in this issue)



LIVING HOPE

3130 S.E. 148th Avenue Portland, Oregon 97236

BAPTIST CHURCH



Family Carol Sing

Wednesday,  
December 21,  
@  
7:00 PM

Please join us!

## UPCOMING EVENTS @ LIVING HOPE

Dec. 1 – Bible Fellowship & potluck  
Dec. 10 – Angel Tree Breakfast  
Dec. 11 – 11:00am Annual Business meeting  
Dec. 17 – 6:00pm  
Youth & Children’s Christmas party  
Dec. 21 – 7:00pm Family Carol Sing  
Dec. 25 – Christmas Day  
Dec. 28 – No AWANA  
Jan. 4, 2012 – AWANA resumes

Jan. 5 – Bible Fellowship  
Jan. 7 – Men’s Breakfast  
Jan. 10 –  
Men’s & Ladies’ Bible studies  
Jan. 14 – Taiwan Team  
Delta meeting  
Jan. 20 & 21 –  
Mission ConneXion

*A loose tongue often gets its owner into a tight place.*