

The Messenger

Living Hope Baptist Church

January 2012

From Pastor Dave's Heart . . .

Season's Blessings!

How wonderfully God has blessed us in this Christmas season. Now as we move into the New Year, we can take some time to thank and praise Him. Many opportunities were provided to share the Gospel and to encourage people to draw closer to our Savior.

Well over one hundred Christmas Child boxes were sent off to Samaritan's Purse for children around the world. They contained nice gifts for children who have little and the message of Jesus in their language. Local pastors work with the children and seek to follow-up and disciple the children. God has used these gifts to plant churches. One of our ladies tracked her box on line and found out it was taken to Peru. If your name was included in the gift, you can track where your box went.

Our Angel Tree Breakfast for children of prisoners was a huge success. We had more children than any other year. It was so gratifying to see the people in our church family bonding with the children and their guardians. We had a full morning's program that took almost half the folks at our church to pull off. Nice gifts were given on behalf of the children's parents who are in prison and the gospel was clearly shared in a loving way.

Our worship services through this season have had increased attendance. On December 18, the choir shared some wonderful music, and I got to share the meaning of Emmanuel with those who attended.

On Wednesday, December 21, we had our AWANA Choral Sing for all the kids

in the clubs and their families. Our church family came and we had a full house. We didn't sing all of the Christmas songs, but we sang a lot of them. Again, the message of Jesus' birth was shared and the kids were invited to ask Jesus to forgive all the "naughty" in their lives.

The whole church has been involved in working and sacrificing and serving and praying that God would use our service for His glory. Only heaven knows what God has done. We rejoice today and one day looking back as we are in the presence of Jesus, we will rejoice with full knowledge of how God multiplied our little gifts. **Now that is the way to celebrate the season!**

Thank you for your good work and Happy New Year,

Pastor Dave



Pastor David Schutjer

Mission ConneXion 2012

your passion ... **God's purpose** ... your call

Friday and Saturday, January 20th & 21st, at Crossroads Community Church, Vancouver.

It is a free event and the schedule is designed so you can invest just a few hours or to take in the whole event.

This is a sample of how God has used this event to call us to invest our passions for His purposes:

- become aware of the remaining unreached people groups in our world (2007)
- send a team to Puebla, Mexico (2008)
- spend a year in prayer for Islamic people groups (2009)
- define our DNA for more effective Sharing ministry (2010)
- serve in Bulgaria (2010)
- embrace two strategic focuses (2011):
 - Heffners – a ministry to unreached peoples in Taiwan
 - Bridge Church – a Prison Fellowship ministry to connect soon to be released prisoners with a church community
- give wisely using the R.A.I.S.E. principles (2011)

Is your passion available for God's purpose?


Contact Barbara Pierce if you are interested in carpooling.


Sharing ... being Jesus to those He came to save.





Taiwanese Tidbit: The Taiwanese prefer to entertain in public places rather than in their home, especially when entertaining foreigners. If you are invited to a Taiwanese home, it will happen once you have developed a relationship and should be considered a great honor.

Heffner Requests and Praises

 Praise that the cell groups of Puli Grace Church increased from 40 to 180! They will be sending two missionaries to India and Bangladesh from Puli.

 Pray for good relationships between the Heffners, the Taiwanese believers, and the Taiwanese who do not know the Lord.

 Pray for a safe journey back to Taiwan and a good reunion with fellow workers and with the Taiwanese.

 Pray for Blaze ministry, Upper Room (bands), English classes, Bible distribution, Shin She Covenant Church, interns and Taiwanese believers as they share with friends and family.

Men's Bible Study

Join us for an overview of the Bible.

“Knowing the whole story of Scripture from Genesis to Revelation is vital if we are to learn the truth in Scripture and how all the parts and people fit.”

Tuesdays at 7 p.m. Beginning January 10th Sign up at the Information Center



**Pastor
Andrew
Miller**

We had a great month in the month of December. All the kids here at Living Hope of course were excited because it was Christmas, and that meant they were hoping to get lots of presents. I got excited because we got to have our annual Youth-Children's Christmas party! This year at the party, we played some fun relay games with candy canes and ping pong balls. We did a team bonding game moving candy canes using only other candy canes that were being held in our mouths, and when all was done, we played more candy cane games! We also were able to do a wonderful craft, which Carol Ballinger was willing to coordinate for us. We made some very fun wind chime type decorations with the green/red holiday colors! All the kids had a great time making this craft and I think it worked out so well! All in all, our Christmas party was a huge success this year, and I know we are all looking forward to next year's now.

Speaking of next year, we are planning a busy year for our youth, full of activities! Probably the most exciting activity this year will be the retreat we are planning in July! This will be open to all new 6th grade students, as well as the exiting senior (Jessica Ferguson). That's right, our little Jessica is graduating this year so be looking through your pictures for any that might be fun to share with others as we will most definitely be having some sort of celebration party for her.

There of course will be other activities going on, and I hope to continue the youth/children's prayer times and the after Sunday School Lunches. So keep an ear out. With everything we have planned there will be plenty of opportunities for you to help out and be involved!!

Women Connecting to the Vine

Are you tired of making resolutions you never keep? Do you want to make wise food choices but end up craving and eating what you know isn't healthy?

The Women's Bible study is taking 7 weeks to learn how to be empowered and victorious in the food choices we make. The study is not a diet or nutrition plan...we already know what we should do, now we need the motivation and strength to stay the course. In the book and DVD series, *Made to Crave*, we will come to understand that we are created to crave God but often in our lives the craving for God is replaced with other cravings and for many women that craving is for food. No amount of will power or information on nutrition will help us get off the roller coaster of poor eating choices until we first recognize our need to surrender this area of our lives to God. We will study what the Bible says about how we can satisfy our deepest desires with God...not food.

The study is fun and positive – no guilt trips! We will laugh, EAT and support each other in prayer. This study has the potential to change your physical and spiritual health – isn't 7 weeks worth the investment for a life time of victorious living?

The study will start Tuesday, January 10th. To find out more information or to register – visit the



Information Desk in the foyer or email Lori Palmiter at ll.palmiter@comcast.net

WHO AM I?

I was born in October here in Portland and I am a freshman in high school. I have one sister – no brothers. Since I am still in school, I have not decided what college I want to attend or just what I want to study. I enjoy working with the Clubbers in AWANA, helping them learn their verses. My favorite thing to do is play basketball and I like to watch TV in my free time. Hawaii would be my idea of a perfect place to spend a vacation. I have attended Living Hope all of my life.

(You can find my name somewhere in this issue)

UPCOMING EVENTS @ LIVING HOPE

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| Jan. 4, 2012 – AWANA resumes | Dinner/Movie |
| Jan 5 – 10:00am Bible Fellowship | Jan. 14 – Taiwan Team Delta Meeting |
| Jan. 7 – 8:00am Men’s Breakfast | |
| Jan. 10 – 9:00am Focus Group Prayer | Jan. 20 & 21 – Mission ConneXion |
| Jan. 10 – 7:00pm Men’s & Ladies’ Bible Studies resume | Jan. 24 – 9:00am Focus Group Prayer |
| Jan 12 - 7:00pm Overseer Board | Feb. 4 – 8:00am Men’s Breakfast |
| Jan. 13 - 6:30pm Ladies’ | Feb. 12 – 5:00pm Spaghetti Dinner |
| | Mar. 3 – 8:00am Men’s Breakfast |

The poorest man is he whose only wealth is money.