

Words of Hope **Tuesday, December 6, 2011**

Shining in Hope – Christmas Version

I don't know about your household, but my family seems to get busier and busier as Christmas approaches. Parties and musicals and shopping, oh my! This is the season where we should be celebrating and rejoicing the birth of Jesus, and yet it is so easy to get caught up in the frenzy of activities.

A couple weeks ago at Hope Church, Pastor Peter spoke eloquently about this very topic. He encouraged us to think less about our shopping, and more about what we are actually celebrating at Christmas time. Is Christmas really about finding that perfect gift? No, it is rejoicing that God sent us His only son! As a parent myself, this gift of grace from God always amazes me.

If you are struggling to find the hope in Christmas, or the joy in Christmas, and you do not have a church that you regularly attend. I encourage you to join us at Hope church for a Christmas related event. We have many meaningful events coming up, and it can be a great time to connect with others and find hope in your heart. Merry Christmas to you all!

Kristen Okabayashi

Upcoming family friendly events at Hope Church:

- Wed 12/7: 7:00 PM Sounds of Christmas (Hope sanctuary)
- Sat 12/10: 8:00 PM Christmas Ship at Alki
- Wed 12/14: 1:30 and 7:00 PM Christmas Musical (Hope sanctuary)
- Sun 12/18: 10:30 AM Hope Sunday School Christmas Performance
- Sun 12/18: 5:00 PM Family Christmas Carol Extravaganza
- Sat 12/24: 5:00 PM Family Christmas Eve Service

Upcoming School Calendar Events

Tue. 12/6: Quarter 2 Midterm Reports Sent Home / ITBS Standardized tests results Sent Home

Wed. 12/7: 7:00 PM Hope School Sounds of Christmas Concert at Hope Church

Fri. 12/9: Free Dress Day

Wed. 12/14: 1:30 & 7:00 PM Christmas Musical at Hope Church

Fri. 12/16: Noon Dismiss – Christmas Holiday / ESC “XTRA” Open

Mon. 12/19 to Mon. 1/2/12: School Closed – Christmas Break / ESC “XTRA” Open Dec. 19, 20 & 21

Santa Grams

Student council is selling “Santa Grams” this week only, before and after school. Santa Grams are 50 cents each, and can be sent to friends, teachers, or anyone at school (such as principals, hint hint). They include a short Christmas greeting and a candy cane. Santa Grams will be handed out on Friday, December 16.



Scrip Orders for Christmas

The last date to get your order in for Christmas scrip purchases is this Thursday, December 8! After that date we will only have what is available daily in the box. Now is a great time to order for your teachers, family and kids. We also have “Scrip Gift Certificates” that can be turned in to purchase scrip if you don’t know what that special person wants! Thanks for your continued support!

Extended School Care & Sand Dollar Club

Please note that our Extended School Care and Sand Dollar Club will be closed during Christmas/New Year’s break starting Thursday, December 22. They will both be open as needed on Monday, Dec. 19, Tue. Dec. 20 & Wed. Dec. 21. You will need to reserve your child’s place in ESC or Sand Dollar Club for those three days. Both programs will resume on Tuesday, January 3, 2012

Canned Food and Toy Drive

Last week! We are collecting canned food for families who need it through December 9. Highly needed items are ready-to-eat food such as granola bars, fruit, and canned meat. All non-expired food items are welcome!

Sounds of Christmas

Our “SOUNDS OF CHRISTMAS” concert is tomorrow, December 7. You will hear from Hope’s chapel band, bell choir, GLEE club, and school choir, as well as Seattle Lutherans’ jazz band. This concert will take place at 7:00 PM in the sanctuary of Hope Lutheran Church.

Christmas Musical

The 1st - 5th grade students of Hope School invite you to attend their Christmas musical on December 14 with 1:30 and 7:00 PM performances. The students will present WHAT CAN WE BRING. This musical tells the story of Christ’s birth through the eyes of the shepherds. This event will take place in the sanctuary of Hope Church. Parents please note that your child/ren will need to wear blue jeans and a navy school shirt. Shirts may be long or short sleeved.....just needs to be plain navy.

Parents Night Out

Christmas Time has arrived! This will be the last Parents Night Out before Christmas Break. PNO is the perfect time to go shopping for some Christmas presents for your children while they have fun, play, eat, and watch a movie! Parents night out will be Saturday, December 10th from 6-9pm. If you have any questions please email Mr. Kapels at Bkapels@hopeseattle.org

