

## Getting to know - “the Answer” Youth & Family Ministry at Hope

### “Another minute - Another Month”

It’s been one of those months where so much has happened that it feels like eternity, but everything happened so fast that feels like just yesterday that I was working on the previous Grapevine page. However quickly it seems like the past month has passed, I hope and pray that it’s been good for you and your family. As for me and my family, this past month we’ve seen the beginning of school for Jeremiah. In classic first grade fashion, he managed to lose one of his front teeth the day before school pictures. He was so proud! We have also started “Soccer Season” with both Samuel and Jeremiah participating on teams. I even get to coach Jeremiah’s team! We also celebrated our daughter Alexandra’s second birthday. She keeps us on our toes and full of smiles with cute curls and relentless comments and questions. These are great years that Andrea and I are trying to remember to enjoy.

As many of you know, we continue to “fix up” a new house. To answer the question, “So when are you finally going to get to move in?” my (optimistic) response is “hopefully before I write next month’s newsletter page. We really seem to be getting down to the end and we thank those of you who have helped us along the way. Life seems

to be going well as the Associate Pastor for Youth and Family Ministry here at Hope, and I thank you for the opportunity to share with you in this ministry.

I’ve told you about my personal life and some of the best parts of the past month, but you should know that there are great things happening here at Hope too. This past Sunday I sat at the table in our Conference Room and stared into the eyes of eight young men and women who are high school youth that have chosen to serve on our leadership team. To see that depth of faith from these young people is really inspiring and encouraging.

Another joy has come from seeing the community spirit and energy present on Wednesday nights. With the Community Center full of people for dinner and youth running in the halls and adults making their way to Pastor Roger’s Bible study class, it just feels like our facility is full of life and energy. It’s really fun to be a part of what God is doing in the lives of the youth and families of this congregation.

Your Partner in Ministry, Pastor Adam

### “Reflections from our Assistant for Youth Ministry”

Wow! It’s been an amazing start to a new school year of youth ministry here at Hope Lutheran Church. As schedules fill up quickly with sports, band, homework, school projects, and many other things in life, we have seen youth take seriously their faith and add Church activities and youth group to those other weekly commitments. As I stand back and look at the youth ministry program and how it just seems to be moving along, it seems like Pastor Adam and I don’t have to drag, guilt, or pressure youth into doing things at church or to come to activities, youth group, and/or other outreach events. I believe that God has truly been working in the lives of his children here at Hope and through that he has allowed me and Adam to focus less on getting youth to attend things and more on making this ministry one that reflects God’s love and kindness. These young people are reflecting that love, not only at church, but on their school campuses, in their

everyday lives, and in their homes with their families.

The mission of your Youth ministry at Hope is to “Build relationships with and between youth so that they can strengthen their relationship with Christ.” God is so great and has been helping youth to do exactly that! One of the best parts of my job is when I get a text, or a call, or I hear that the kids are hanging out together at school or outside of church, calling on each other for strength and not turning to the wrong people or the wrong things for guidance. A perk to my job is getting to know each youth individually and having the chance to talk with them about things happening in each of their lives.

The other day when I was talking to a young lady from our youth group, she brought a smile to my face and reminded me why I love my job so much! She told me that she had been having a terribly emotional and discouraging week. She said that the highlight of her week was

when she talked to another youth from our group about it and the conversation helped her feel renewed. That other person brought insight that made her smile. That is our mission! We want to help build these relationships between other Christian youth so that when times get tough and there is no one to turn to, they turn to Christ and look for Christ through their fellow Christian friends.

What brings joy to my life is that by working here at Hope Lutheran Church, I get to see a child’s life completely transformed by building and strengthening the relationship that they have with God. It’s amazing to have the opportunity to work at a place where I can see amazing things happen and God’s work being done. I love my job, I love the entire congregation who support me, and I love each one of God’s beautiful children that I have the pleasure of working with. Thank you!

Alison Quinn



# October 2010

## Hope Lutheran Church

Extending hope in Jesus!

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 "the Way" Youth Group	11	12	13	14	15	16
"the Life—Movie Night"						SPSYC H.S. Retreat
17 H.S. Retreat	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Trunk-or-Treat						

31  
Confirmation  
No Youth Group

For more information on any scheduled event you can check the online calendar at [www.hlcyouthfresno.org](http://www.hlcyouthfresno.org)



**Trunk-or-Treat** is scheduled for the evening of Wednesday, Oct. 27. This is a wonderful opportunity to provide the children and families of our community with a fun and safe event where they can get some candy and receive the gifts of love and hospitality from the many kind people of this congregation. If you would like to help with this event, please contact the church office. Our Sunday school classes will be collecting candy for their October "offerings." Additional bags of wrapped candy can be brought to the office at any time. Please consider how you and your family might be a part of this event which capitalizes on a great chance to "extend hope in Jesus."

## Regular Schedule

The following opportunities should be considered part of our regular program and will meet weekly from Sept. 1 - Dec. 15 (and then will resume in January). We will do our best to inform participants of changes to this "regular schedule." The youth website at [www.hlcyouthfresno.org](http://www.hlcyouthfresno.org) has a calendar that is a reliable source for further details and information on upcoming events.

**Sunday School**—We have Sunday school for all children through grade 8. Kids will be promptly dismissed from the 9:30am service to their classes which run concurrently with our traditional worship service.

**Primetime**— On Wednesday evenings we will have dinner at 5:30 and will have classes for adults as well as children in grades 1-12. Classes are from 6:15-7:45pm.

**"The Life"** - High School youth group meets on Sunday nights from 6-8pm. Join us for fun, fellowship, lessons and more.



### Regular Schedule

Sunday School 9:30am  
the Life 6:00-8:00pm (Sun.)  
Primetime 5:30-7:45pm (Wed.)

the Way ~ 4th-6th grade

the Truth ~ 7th-8th grade

the Life ~ 9th-12th grade

Assoc. Pastor—Youth & Family

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- Ms. Alison Quinn,  
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**Sunday, Oct 10 \* 5-8pm @ Hope**

Our high schoolers are invited and strongly encouraged to bring their parents for "Movie Night." We will be watching "To Save a Life" which is a very powerful film with a message relevant for all of us. The movie presents a realistic view of many aspects of current high school life which may be eye-opening for parents. This movie will definitely stir up some conversation. We have allowed 3 hours for this evening so that we can watch the film and also provide opportunities for youth and adults to discuss the movie separately before heading home.

The film is rated PG-13 because of the realistic ways that it depicts high school life. We do not recommend bringing younger siblings to this event.