

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP. GROW. SERVE.

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 665

February 16, 2022

“Times Are a-Changing, Daily!”

This was a headline on the Fox News website this past Monday morning. Of course, it caught my eye.

Satanic after-school club takes aim at Christian student groups

I read the article to make sure I understood the headline. The first paragraph of the article states: *“The Satanic Temple recently opened an after-school “Satan Club” in a Moline, Illinois, elementary school, as part of its nationwide campaign to push back against the Christian Good News Clubs offered to schoolchildren after regular-hour classes.”*

Now, I will say, that a leader in The Satanic Temple in Moline is leading the “Satan Club” himself and states, *“We’re not including items of religious opinion ... We’re not teaching children about Satanism. They’re just going to know that this is taught by Satanists.”* Greaves continued: *“The after-school Satan Clubs were conceived of in order to give an alternative to [the] religious indoctrination [of] after-school programs.”*

The Satanic Temple says it’s really an atheist organization, despite a statue depicting its leader as a tall human with a goat’s head and horns and two children looking on adoringly.

The article’s author goes on to state: *The Satanic Temple is not hiding the fact that it created the clubs to take on the Christian club called the Good News Club — which has become its No. 1 nemesis.* Reece Kauffman, president of Child Evangelism, which operates the Good News Clubs, said of the Satanic Temple, *“I cannot tell you what’s in their hearts, but they certainly are doing work that would be contrary to the Good News of Jesus Christ.”*

In June of 2001 The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that religious groups could operate after-class programs in public schools of which “The Satan Clubs” are considered such.

As you might imagine, there has been some push back by some parents and they have had some protests at the school on the days that the Satan Club meets.

Am I surprised at this happening? NO, not in the least. The attack and down right persecution of Christianity and the Bible is coming more swiftly and is more blatant everyday. What is amazing to me is that these who want to combat Christianity in America use the law for their purpose, and fight against the same law, for their purpose. Here is what I mean by that. They use “Freedom of Religion” to say: *“We have a right to practice our ‘religion’ too.”* But then when a Christian church places a manger scene outside of a downtown church building at Christmas time, the same groups says: *“This violates our rights for having to see this Christian scene in a public space (even though it is on church property) and that the church shouldn’t be able to claim ‘Freedom of Religion’ to show publicly a scene depicting Christ’s birth.”*

We have seen in the past 5 decades the watering down of everything “Christian”, not just in our society, not just in the individuals in our nation, but in the church. What do we expect will be the results folks? For some, the Bible is no longer authoritative and they pick and choose what passages fit their agenda and what passages they call antiquated or false. In that, there is NO truth at all in what they present.

Those of you that might be reading this article on Facebook or on our website and agree more with society about the Holy Scriptures, you will take issues with this passage I’m about to quote. It is becoming a passage that many Christians seem to be tired of hearing also. I had someone tell me not long ago, “You aren’t going to quote 2 Timothy 3:16 & 17, are you, to make your case?” Yes! Yes I am! **“All Scripture is inspired by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness; so that the man of God may be adequate, equipped for every good work”** (2 Timothy 3:16 & 17 NASB). This is where I stand. God’s word is authoritative from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22. All of God’s Word is Truth!

Folks, don’t be surprised at what is happening in our society and our world. The Bible states it will happen and Jesus predicted it would happen. We will see more “Satan Clubs” in our schools, but not only that, blatant in your face persecution of the Gospel.

What we need to be about is our continued effort of proclaiming the Good News of Jesus Christ and let the Holy Spirit do His work. Stay focused on Christ at all times and stay the course. Be informed! Be aware! Read articles like the one I have quoted here so that you will know what you are up against. Don’t be fearful, but share the “truth in love”. One day all of this will be over. Christ will turn our upside down world right-side up again. Until that day, He has called us to be faithful and to glorify Him in all things and in all ways and proclaim His truth.

Those that never follow Christ will one day face judgement for their actions. It is then, as the apostle Paul states in Philippians 2:9-11: **“For this reason also, God highly exalted Him, and bestowed on Him the name which is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus EVERY KNEE WILL BOW, of those who are in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and that EVERY TONGUE WILL CONFESS that Jesus Christ is LORD, to the glory of God the Father.”** (NASB)

Be informed! Be aware! my brothers and sisters in Christ. Times are a-changing, daily!

Blessings my friends,

Pastor Marty - HOPE Church Raleigh

Worship . Grow . Serve

Quoted Article by Lauren Green | Fox News

<https://www.foxnews.com/lifestyle/satan-club-archenemy-christian-clubs-kids-moline-illinois>

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, February 16

Wednesday Night Supper, Study, & Prayer Time @ 6:15 p.m.

Thursday, February 17

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 20

Worship Team Practice @ 8:30 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Time @ 10:50 a.m.

Sunday School @ 11:10 a.m.

Monday, February 21

Staff Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday, February 23

Wednesday Night Supper, Study, & Prayer Time @ 6:15 p.m.

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship Food - February 20

Church Will Provide

Soundboard - February 20

Benjamin Pierce

Communion Steward - February

Terry Duffell

Greeter - February 20

Volunteer Needed

Volunteer for the Nursery - Feb. 20

Terry Duffell

This Sunday
Scripture Text and Sermon

Romans 8:1 - 8
"Freedom's Truth"

Daily Devotions For This Coming Week

Feb. 20	Leviticus	15
Feb. 21	Leviticus	16
Feb. 22	Leviticus	17
Feb. 23	Leviticus	18
Feb. 24	Leviticus	19
Feb. 25	Leviticus	20
Feb. 26	Leviticus	21



Sunday School for all ages This Sunday

Our Outreach Ministries

"Food of the Month" for the Raleigh Dream Center Food Pantry.

February

Canned Meats and Fruit

We have a collection bin in the foyer

Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if needed for you or someone else.

There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board to help prepare meals for others. See Christina Johnston with questions.

WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, February 26th
@ 1:00 p.m.

The Computer Lab

Is on hold until April or May

MEN of HOPE

Tuesday, March 1st at 7 p.m.
A ZOOM link for the meeting will be sent out beforehand.
Join us!

**HOPE Session will meet on
Sunday, March 13 @ 12 PM
(In Person)**

Helping Hands

If anyone is available to help Dale and Kathy Herriman move a few pieces of furniture this Saturday @ 11 a.m. please let them know. herrimandale@gmail.com

Quote of the Week

"Problems patiently endured will work for our spiritual perfecting."

A. W. Tozer

Prayer Requests:

Covid -19, Mark Drylie, Kyle Rohweder (Friend of Rich and Diane Williams), Chandhi Haswell & family, Beverly Ivy (Lynn Joyner's Sister), Ken Guy (Lynn Joyner's brother-in-law), Norma Talley (Lynn Joyner's sister), Revill & Mary Lane Mallory, Evelyn Doby, Jamie Baldwin, Donna Williams, Renee Logan, Loretta (Sandi Underwood's daughter), Joan Summers, Jordan & Cinnamon (son and daughter of Lynn Joyner's family members), Tommy Lanphere (Lynn Joyner's brother), Becky Hale's mom in Wyoming, Gene & Becky Hale, The Baker family, Dave & Dot Geil, Joy Forrest's daughter Haley, Carlyle and Cynthia Franklin (Sandra Pierce's dad and stepmom), Brian Adam's dad, our Military, our Missionaries, our Nation, and the world. If you have those you would like added to our prayer concerns, please email me those names.

Wednesday Night Supper, Study, & Prayer Tonight (2/16) @ 6:15 p.m.

Menu:

Spaghetti, Salad/Fruit
French Bread, & Dessert

David Logan will continue with our study of Ephesians Schedule:

6:15 p.m. - Supper
7:00 p.m. - Bible Study
7:00 p.m. - HOPE4Kids
7:45 p.m. - Break
7:50 p.m. - Prayer Time

*(If you cannot attend in person and want to join the Bible Study, open the ZOOM Link
Pastor Marty sends out each Monday)*

DISCOVERY CLASS (New Member Class)

THIS Sunday,
during the
Sunday school time.

HOPE Church Raleigh An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

4911 Green Rd

Raleigh, NC 27616

919-508-6827

Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org

www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

YouTube.com (type "HOPE Church Raleigh" in the search box)