

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP. GROW. SERVE.

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 667

February 23, 2022

“Our Time!!!”

Many of would say, I like growing up in “my” era. Some say though, I wish I’d grown up in the “Roaring 20’s” or I would have liked to lived during the “Wild, Wild, West” days with the movement of a nation growing from East to West. Some even say, I wish I would have grown up during the time of Jesus, or Moses, or King David. I’m not sure those individuals have really thought through that wish, but everyone has a favorite thought on this.

Of course, I do too. While I marvel at the 246 year history of the United States of America, I will take my era. I have several reasons, but one of them is, I loved the 60’s and 70’s growing up. Yes, I know there was the Vietnam War, Civil unrest, even horrible assassinations. But I still love the fact that I grew up during that era. One of my loves of that era was the music.

Growing up on the late 60’s and 70’s, Rock and Roll music was a blast. Cruising town with my friends, windows down, 8-track (yes I said 8-track) blaring with my favorite band was awesome. One of my favorite bands from that era is the Eagle’s. I still love their music. Terry and I saw them in Raleigh during early 2000’s at PNC Arena. When I saw that they were doing their “Hotel California” tour celebrating their 50’s Anniversary, I wanted tickets. Just one other thing, my daughter Emma, has a passion for the Eagle’s like her father. So I gave her two tickets for Christmas to the February 21, 2022 Eagle’s Concert in Charlotte. Two tickets, so that she could take a friend with her. So this past Monday night, Emma, Lauren, and I were sitting watching this legendary band perform and it was an awesome 3+ hours concert.



While I loved the music of the 60’s and 70’s and still do, another reason I love my era is that I grew up in a time and place (a farm outside of Tabor City, NC) where life was simple, grounded in community and in the church. I never heard the question in my community, “Do you go to church?” It was always, “Where do you go to church?” Were there issues in my era of the 60’s and 70’s? You better believe it! But folks, every generation has faced issues in this world.

With each passing year since the “Fall of Man”, there has been good and bad, peace and war. None of us like the bad and war. We certainly look forward to the good and peace. But we also know the Bible tells us, this is the reality of the world in which we live. But I still like my era.

I had a boss once that repeated this saying when someone would begin talking about troubles, “You hang your troubles out on a line and I’ll hang mine. You take yours and I’ll take mine!” It was his way of saying, face your troubles and your trials, of your time. There are always those that aren’t facing the same trials, but also those who are facing more difficult trials. In the end, we face what is before us, regardless of generation, BECAUSE, this is the time in which God has chosen to place us.

Folks, this is our time to shine! Our time in which God has chosen you and me to live. Our time to make a difference in this world. Our time to engage with people about Jesus. Our Time!!!

For example, Emma, Lauren and I were across from the Spectrum Center in Charlotte on Monday night eating supper at a Japanese restaurant before the Eagle’s concert. The place was full. So after we ordered, we started looking for a table and there were none. There was a couple sitting at a table that had three extra seats and offered for us to sit down with them, which we did. Of course, I began to talk and by the time they left, I knew a lot about them and they knew a lot about me, including the I was a pastor of an Evangelical Presbyterian church and that I love Jesus. After they left, Emma said, “Why are you friendly, engaging these people we don’t know?” I said, “Why not? It is a great way to be friendly and share with them.” Of course the guy sitting beside me in the concert didn’t get by with just sitting there without engaging about Jesus and church. And he and his wife were believers. Not sure about the restaurant couple.

I say all of this to say, it’s our time. God has placed us here for a purpose and His ultimate desire is for us to glorify Him in all we do and say. To love Him and love others for Him. That does not mean we agree with un-biblical doctrines, life-styles, etc, but that we love people for Jesus.

It’s our time, our era, and the only question is, what will we do with it for Jesus? Will we take the opportunity to share Him? Will we engage people where they are? It is great to fantasize about living in another era and what that would look like. But the fact is, we are here, now, in 2022 and the question is, what will we do with “Our Time?”

Blessing to you all,

Pastor Marty - HOPE Church Raleigh

Worship . Grow . Serve

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, February 23

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

Thursday, February 24

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, February 26

Women of HOPE @ 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, February 27

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 28

Staff Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, March 1

Men of HOPE @ 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, March 2

Wednesday Night Supper @ 6:15 p.m.

Ash Wednesday Prayer Service

@ 7:00 p.m.

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship Food - February 27

Church Will Provide

Soundboard - February 27

Sherif Mikhael

Communion Steward - February

Terry Duffell

Greeter - February 27

Volunteer Needed

Volunteer for the Nursery - Feb. 27

Terry Duffell

This Sunday
Scripture Text and Sermon

Romans 8:9 - 11

"Knowing -

I Belong to Christ"

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Feb. 27	Leviticus	22
Feb. 28	Leviticus	23
Mar. 1	Leviticus	24
Mar. 2	Leviticus	25
Mar. 3	Leviticus	26
Mar. 4	Leviticus	27
Mar. 5	Numbers	1



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!

Lent Begins March 2nd

Lent 2022 begins on Wednesday, March 2nd. We will have supper at 6:15 p.m. as usual and then a **Prayer Service at 7 p.m.** to begin Lent. (No Ephesians Study this night). If you plan to attend supper before the service and haven't been coming on Wednesday, please let Pastor Marty know so he can plan for the food preparations.

Quote of the Week

"The Law sends us to Christ to be justified, and Christ sends us to the Law to be regulated."

John Flavel

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 (2/23) @ 6:15 p.m.

Menu:

Crock Pot Pork Chops

Rice and Gravy, Field Peas,

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

HOPE Church Raleigh

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

4911 Green Rd

Raleigh, NC 27616

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Worship Time: 9:30 AM

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