

# The Connection

## Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 674

April 13, 2022

## “Encouragement - Given & Received!”

Many of you may not be golf enthusiasts, in fact, maybe have never watched a golf match on TV, but in mentioning golf and referring to “The Masters”, most have heard of this particular major golf tournament. The Masters is held in Augusta, Georgia at Augusta National Golf Course. It is considered one of the most prestigious of all tournaments played each year. This year’s tournament finished up this past Sunday and Scottie Scheffler won.

Most of you may not know Scottie. He is 25 years old. He won 4 out of his last 6 tournaments he has played in. He is ranked as the World’s #1 Golfer. He is married and has placed those around him that encourage him. I was intrigued by what Scottie said in his press conference following his win at The Masters. Here are some excerpts from that press conference as reported by the Golf Channel’s reporter RYAN LAVNER.

**Sunday! “This morning,” he said, “was a totally different story.”**

**Alone in the house with his wife and his thoughts, Scottie didn’t handle the downtime well.**

**“I cried like a baby this morning,” he said. “I was so stressed out. I didn’t know what to do. I was sitting there telling Meredith, ‘I don’t think I’m ready for this. I’m not ready – I don’t feel like I’m ready for this kind of stuff.’ And I just felt overwhelmed.”**

**It’s clear that she also knows how to unlock Scottie’s greatness. “She told me, ‘Who are you to say that you are not ready? Who am I to say that I know what’s best for my life?’”**

**Scheffler said. “We talked about that God is in control and that the Lord is leading me. And if today is my time, then it’s my time.”**

**It’s the first time in Scheffler’s career that he became emotional before a round.**

**“It’s because it’s the Masters,” he said. “If you’re going to choose a golf tournament to win, this would be the tournament I would want to win. ... This golf course and this tournament is just different.”**

**“Truly, I felt peace when I’m on the golf course,” he said.**

**“I think the hardest stuff is off the golf course.**

**“I have such a great support system,” he said, “and I’m so blessed.”**

**(From the [golfchannel.com](https://www.golfchannel.com) BY RYAN LAVNER**

**APRIL 10, 2022 AT 10:15 PM)**

Scottie stated: “I have such a great support system, ...and I’m so blessed.” That got me to thinking. I know, that is dangerous as many of you know.

What is my support system like? Who are those who encourage me, lifting me up, challenging me to be the best I can be for the LORD? Do I have those people in my life? Have I surrounded myself with encouragers?

The Old and New Testaments are full of verses of encouragement. Ones encouraging and others welcoming encouragement. Here are but only a few:

**1 Samuel 23:16:** “And Jonathan, Saul’s son, arose and went to David at Horesh, and **encouraged** him in God.”

**Acts 11:23:** “Then when he arrived and witnessed the grace of God, he rejoiced and began to **encourage** them all with resolute heart to remain true to the Lord...”

**Acts 15:32:** “Judas and Silas, also being prophets themselves, **encouraged** and strengthened the brethren...”

**Acts 16:40:** “They went out of the prison and entered the house of Lydia, and when they saw the brethren, they **encouraged** them...”

**Colossians 4:8:** “For I have sent him to you for this very purpose, that you may know about our circumstances and that he may **encourage** your hearts...”

**Colossians 4:11:** “...and also Jesus who is called Justus; these are the only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who are from the circumcision, and they have proved to be an **encouragement** to me.”

**1 Thessalonians 3:2:** “...and we sent Timothy, our brother and God’s fellow worker in the gospel of Christ, to strengthen and **encourage** you as to your faith...”

**1 Thessalonians 5:11:** “Therefore **encourage** one another and build up one another, just as you also are doing.”

This last verse here should be one we certainly take note of. The Apostle Paul is challenging us to be encouragers. Oh, folks, it is so easy to fall into the trap of being critical or in tearing down a person. You and I need to caution ourselves in doing that. I know when I do it, God convicts me of it. I want to be an encourager and surround myself with those who encourage me.

Scottie, last Sunday morning was reminded by his wife Meredith, who is in control and that the Lord was leading him. For him to just live into that moment, whatever the outcome may be. Meredith gave great words of encouragement to her husband.

How about with you? Are you an encourager? Have you surrounded yourself with those who encourage you? Man, what a difference that makes. Even when challenged by others on your perspective of things, their encouragement to look at things differently can be a great help to you.

Take a lesson from the Apostle Paul. He, over and over again in his letters to the church, to Believers, welcomed their encouragement and also encouraged them in the faith. Let’s try to do likewise.

Way to go Scottie and Meredith Scheffler, for putting out your faith conversations in a public setting so that others could see your dependence on the Lord!!! More need to be bold in this manner.

If you are reading this article, I want to encourage you in your faith. God is ever present and ever with you. Lean into Him at all times for He will never forsake you. During this Holy Week 2022, remember that He has given His life for you that you might have life in Him. He is alive!!! Risen!!! And intercedes on your behalf to the Father! Praise God for His matchless Love, Grace, and Mercy!

Blessings my friends,  
Pastor Marty - HOPE Church Raleigh  
Worship . Grow . Serve

# HOPE Calendar

**Wednesday, April 13**

**NO** Wednesday Night Supper,  
Study, Tonight

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

**Thursday, April 14**

**Maundy Thursday Service**  
@ 7:00 p.m.

**Friday, April 15**

**GOOD FRIDAY**

The Sanctuary is open for Prayer from  
7:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

**Sunday, April 17**

**Easter Sunday**

Worship Team Practice @ 8:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Time @ 10:50 a.m.

**Monday, April 18**

Staff Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.

## Helping Hands Ministries

**Fellowship Food - April 17**

**Church Will Provide**

**Soundboard - April 17**

**Dave O'Dell**

**Communion Steward - April**

**Elizabeth Floyd**

**Greeter - April 17**

**Volunteer Needed**

**Volunteer for the Nursery - Apr 17**

**Terry Duffell**

This Sunday  
Scripture Text and Sermon

*John 20:1 - 18*  
*"He's Alive!"*



## NO Sunday School This Sunday (Easter)

### Our Outreach Ministries

"Food of the Month" for the Raleigh Dream  
Center Food Pantry. **April:**

**Boxed Cereal**

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, April 23rd

@ 1:00 p.m.

### The Computer Lab

This Saturday, April 16th  
@ 9:00 a.m.

### MEN of HOPE

Tuesday, April 19th at 7 p.m.

A ZOOM link for the meeting will  
be sent out beforehand.

Join us!

## Holy Week Opportunities

**April 14**

Maundy Thursday @ 7 p.m.

**April 15**

Good Friday

Sanctuary open for Prayer  
7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

**April 17**

Easter Sunday @ 9:30 a.m.  
(No Sunday School)

## Prayer Requests:

Covid -19, Lori Estelle, Mark Drylie, Kyle Rohweder  
(Friend of Rich and Diane Williams), Chandi Haswell &  
family, Ken Guy (Lynn Joyner's brother-in-law), 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.

## NO Wednesday Night Ministries Tonight (4/13)

## Worship Team Practice Tonight @ 7:00 p.m.

The Worship Team will practice  
tonight (Wednesday) for our  
Maundy Thursday service and  
Easter Sunday.

## Blooming Cross

HOPE Family

On Easter Sunday, we would love for  
you to bring in some cut flowers (any  
variety) and place on the cross  
BEFORE Easter Worship begins. Arrive  
early and let's begin to build a  
beautiful Blooming Cross!!!

## Invitation to Easter Worship

Did you know that most non-believers,  
non-church goers, more than any  
other time of the year, receive an  
invitation to attend Easter Service from  
you positively. They see Easter service  
as less of a "threat" to them as are  
other times of the year. So I would  
encourage you to invite someone to  
worship this Sunday that God has laid  
on your heart.

## HOPE Church Raleigh An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

4911 Green Rd

Raleigh, NC 27616

919-508-6827

**Worship Time: 9:30 AM**

[www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org](http://www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org)

[www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh](https://www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh)

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

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

## Daily Devotions For This Coming Week

Apr. 17	Deuteronomy	8
Apr. 18	Deuteronomy	9
Apr. 19	Deuteronomy	10
Apr. 20	Deuteronomy	11
Apr. 21	Deuteronomy	12
Apr. 22	Deuteronomy	13
Apr. 23	Deuteronomy	14

## Quote of the Week

**"The hypocrite carries the Bible  
under his arm, but not in his heart."**

Thomas Watson