

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP. GROW. SERVE.

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 681

June 01, 2022

“Excitement?”

Our dog Finnick is very observant. He loves to sit on the back of the couch in the family room and look out the picture window onto our front yard. Finnick has many things to observe. Just in the past week he has seen, a turtle heading across the yard to the pond. He has seen three deer standing at the steps of our back deck, and two turkeys in the front yard. Also, squirrels, rabbits, birds of many kinds, all running around our front yard. And when Finnick sees ANY of these animals in HIS yard, he gets very excited.

Finnick barks, paces back and forth, jumps up on the window trying to get their attention. At times, he does and they run off, well, except the turtle, he just keeps crawling. You would think by Finnick’s action, this was the greatest thing he had ever seen or experienced. And, this is repeated every time any type of animals shows up in the yard. Well, also, any person. Now, if you are outside walking Finnick and an animal is detected by him, HOLD ON! If you aren’t ready for it, he will jerk you down or try to pull the leash out of your hand. He goes crazy, trying to get to whatever animal is in the yard. He may be only 33 pounds, but he is strong, fast, and knows what he wants. He is excited.



This weekend as I watched him on his daily surveillance of the yard from the back of the couch, watching his anticipated excitement, and then seeing it burst forth as a squirrel shows up, I wondering about my excitement, anticipation, watching for what is to come in my relationship with Jesus. Am I excited? And if so, do I show it? Does anyone else know I’m excited about Jesus? Am I excited about what is to come? Am I excited about the promises Jesus has made and will fulfill? Do I get excited about seeing others come to Jesus? For that matter, do I getting excited to tell others about Jesus? Do I? There is verse after verse in the Old and New Testament about joy/excitement of praising, worshiping, and the joy of sharing in the gospel. These are but a few.

**Sing for *joy* in the Lord, O you righteous ones;
Praise is becoming to the upright. Psalm 33:1**

**Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my *exceeding joy*;
And upon the lyre I shall praise You, O God, my God.
Psalm 43:4**

**O come, let us sing for *joy* to the Lord, Let us shout
joyfully to the rock of our salvation. Psalm 95:1**

**And the disciples were continually filled with *joy* and with
the Holy Spirit. Acts 13:52**

**Now may the God of hope fill you with *all joy* and peace in
believing, so that you will abound in *hope* by the power of
the Holy Spirit. Romans 15:13**

**But even if I am being poured out as a drink offering upon
the sacrifice and service of your faith, I *rejoice* and *share*
my joy with you all. Philippians 2:17**

**I have no greater *joy* than this, to hear of my children
walking in the truth. 3 John 1:4
(Italics and underlines added)**

As I watch Finnick’s excitement in all things before him, I do wonder if I’m excited to show my joy for Him daily? I tend to let other things of life and the world take over my day. And yes, I know that is life. But shouldn’t I be conscience of Jesus daily? Why do I put Him on a shelf? Shouldn’t my whole life be surrounded by my faith in my Lord and my Savior? I have to answer yes. And it seems to me, that as I actually do that, my days are better and more joyous regardless of what I face. I tend to be more loving, more kind, more generous, more compassionate than on days that I don’t have Jesus and His joy in my life at the forefront of my day.

Maybe I’m not the only Christian that experiences this. Maybe there are others of you that experience the same thing. If so, could we not commit, you and me, to do better? Could we commit together to be excited about our relationship with Jesus? I truly believe it will make a difference. We will love and treat others better, have a great positive outlook on life, and will show others the Christ/Holy Spirit living in us. I think that would be really cool. What do you say? Want to share and show your excitement for Jesus?

Oh, and by the way, Finnick has been barking his head off at the workers in our yard while I’m writing this article. He is one excited dog!

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

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, June 01

Wednesday Night Devotion & Prayer
@ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 02

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, June 05

Pentecost Sunday

Worship Team Practice @ 8:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Time @ 10:50 a.m.

Sunday school @ 11:10 a.m.

Monday, June 06

Staff Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, June 07

Men of HOPE @ 7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, June 8

Wednesday Night Devotion & Prayer
@ 7:00 p.m.

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship Food - June 05

Church Will Provide

Soundboard - June 05

Dave O'Dell

Communion Steward - June

Sandra Pierce

Greeter - June 05

Volunteer Needed

Volunteer for the Nursery - June 05

Terry Duffell

This Sunday
Scripture Text and Sermon

Acts 2:1 - 4
"You Will Receive Power!"



Outreach Ministries

"Food of the Month"

for the Raleigh Dream Center Food Pantry

Pull Top Canned Vegetables

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.

The Computer Lab

Saturday, June 11th

@ 9:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Sunday School

This Sunday for all ages

Wednesday Night Devotion &

Prayer Tonight @ 7 PM

In person or by Zoom

WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, June 11th

@ 1:00 p.m.

MEN of HOPE

Tuesday, June 7th at 7 p.m.

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

Join us!

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, Diane 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.

Save the DATE

Vacation Bible School 2022

Kingdom Chronicles

Standing Strong in the

Battle for Truth

Dates:

July 5 - 9

Tuesday - Friday

7:00 p.m. to 8:45 p.m.

Saturday

10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Saturday includes a cookout

(Adult Class offered too)

Pentecost RED

For years now, on Pentecost at HOPE, we have worn RED. **Pentecost Sunday is June 5th.** Please plan to wear something RED that Sunday.

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)

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Jun 5	Joshua	23
Jun 6	Joshua	24
Jun 7	Judges	1
Jun 8	Judges	2
Jun 9	Judges	3
Jun 10	Judges	4
Jun 11	Judges	5

Quote of the Week

"By delay of repentance, sin strengthens, and the heart hardens. The longer ice freezeth, the harder it is to be broken."

Thomas Watson