

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP . GROW . SERVE .

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 696

September 14, 2022

“Buried To Your Floor Pans”

Years ago while I was pastor at a church in Wilmington, I had a four wheel drive truck and would go with others from the church on the north end of Carolina Beach. There were signs at the end of the asphalt road that stated: “ONLY FOUR WHEEL DRIVE VEHICLES PAST THIS POINT”. I don’t know if anyone reading this has ever been on the north end of Carolina Beach four wheeling with a truck, but the sand can be, even for a 4X4, very difficult to drive in.

One Sunday after church four families decided to head to the north end and do some surf fishing and grill some hot dogs. All of our trucks were 4X4’s and as we headed out onto the sand, we noticed there was a Black Cadillac Coupe De Ville behind us. He did not stop at the signs, but gunned it and made it about 10 feet out on the sand before it was buried to the floor pans. We all stopped and could not help to be amazed at the sight of a two wheel drive Cadillac buried in the sand. Wes went over as the gentlemen was getting out and said, “Hey man, didn’t you know you can’t drive a two wheel drive car out here?” To which the man said, “But it’s a Cadillac!” We help pull him out so that he didn’t have to call a 4X4 wrecker, which would have cost him \$200.

I was reminded of this this week when I saw a picture on Facebook where someone had driven their Tesla out on the beach in the sand and buried it to the floor pans. Here is the picture. I would bet that when the wrecker drive showed up, this person said, “But, it’s a Tesla”. Folks, this does not work very well, just sayin.



All of us make silly (my momma told me not to say stupid) mistakes. We do things at times that just don’t make sense to others. Even if the signs are prevalent and in our face, we still either think we know better or just ignore them.

Throughout the Bible we see many stores of silly mistakes that people did. We see passionate decisions made that make no sense. The Apostle Paul warns us, even Jesus warns us, about not going down this road. We hear words like watch out, beware, look out for, don’t do this or that, and these are just a few of the warnings.

And then there are times when our ignoring or ignorance buries us. We ask ourselves, “What am I going to do?” We feel that there is no way out. We are buried in the sand up to our floor pans. But there is a way out! For sure, there is a way out!

Matthew 11:28 - 30: “Come to Me, all who are weary and heavy-laden, and I will give you rest. Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For My yoke is easy and My burden is light.”

We know these words. We hear the words of Jesus to “Come to Me...”, but do we? I have heard people say, “But I can figure it out. I don’t need help.” But you know, sometimes when you are stuck in the sand up to your floor pans, you need help. And I’ve seen it happen over and over again, where God sends someone to help get you out, lift you up, provide an alternative and people say, “Oh, I can do it. Thanks anyway!”

Here are a couple of pointers to be reminded of. Watch for the warning signs ahead and don’t make the silly mistakes that can tend to bury us. But, when buried, ask for help. Lean into Jesus if it is spiritual and listen to the Holy Spirit. If God sends help, don’t turn it away. Accept it and give thanks. It’s no fun to be buried up to your floor pans, but there is usually a way out, so don’t ignore it.

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

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, September 14
Wednesday Night Supper, Study & Prayer @ 6:15 p.m.

Thursday, September 15
Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 17
The Computer Lab @ 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, September 18
Worship Team Practice @ 8:00 a.m.
Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship Time @ 10:50 a.m.
Sunday school @ 11:10 a.m.

Monday, September 19
Staff Meeting @ 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday, September 20
Men of HOPE @ 7:00 p.m.
Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship Food - Sept. 18

Church Will Provide

Soundboard - Sept. 18

Benjamin Pierce

Communion Steward - Sept.

Sandra Pierce

Greeter - Sept. 18

Volunteer Needed

Volunteer for the Nursery - Sept. 18

Terry Duffell

This Sunday
Scripture Text and Sermon

Romans 16:17 - 27

"Keep Your Focus"



Outreach Ministries

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

TLC Devotion

September 28th @ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Sunday School
This Sunday for all ages

WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, September 24th
@ 1:00 p.m. meeting at the church

MEN of HOPE

Tuesday, September 20 at 7 p.m.
A ZOOM link for the meeting will be sent out beforehand.
Join us!

Prayer Requests:

Covid -19, Mark Drylie, Chandi Haswell & family, 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, Gene & Becky Hale, Dave & Dot Geil, Joy Forrest's daughter Haley and son Jude, 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, and Prayer
Tonight @ 6:15 p.m.

Schedule each evening:

Supper:

6:15 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Ephesians Study led by

Dave Logan:

7:00 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.

HOPE4Kids Ministry:

7:00 p.m. to 7:40 p.m.

Prayer Time:

7:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m.

Menu:

**BBQ Chicken, Rice & Gravy,
Green Beans, Rolls, & Dessert**

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

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|--------|---------|---|
| Sep 18 | 2 Kings | 2 |
| Sep 19 | 2 Kings | 3 |
| Sep 20 | 2 Kings | 4 |
| Sep 21 | 2 Kings | 5 |
| Sep 22 | 2 Kings | 6 |
| Sep 23 | 2 Kings | 7 |
| Sep 24 | 2 Kings | 8 |

Quote of the Week

"When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun."

John P. Rees