

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP. GROW. SERVE.

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 701

October 19, 2022

“Where We See Him”

Emma and I were privileged to travel with a group of SCCS Junior and Senior students and their parents to England and Scotland during our Fall Break. When this trip began on October 1, little did I know that it would be a time of deep personal reflection and an opportunity to experience my Christian faith and ancestry in a whole new way.

My preparation and anticipation of this trip was filled with anxiousness and nerves, especially since we would be traveling without Marty. To be honest, I didn't really want to go. Emma, on the other hand, was “chomping at the bit” and ready to hit the ground running!! Let the adventures begin!

All of my anxiety dissipated immediately though, once I stepped out of the “Tube” station (the city subway system) and was standing directly across from the landmark commonly known as “Big Ben.” Seeing that monument up close and personal, along with other famous landmarks as we walked around and did some general exploring, put me in a state of awe and wonder that I have not experienced in a very long time. Around every corner, there seemed to be a building, a landmark, an experience that was larger than life. I have read books and seen pictures or TV shows about many of these things but experiencing them for real was almost more than I could take in.

We had the opportunity to visit Westminster Abbey, St. Michael's Cathedral, St. Paul's Cathedral, Holy Trinity Church (home church of CS Lewis), and several other churches throughout the city of Oxford, as well as St. Giles Cathedral (burial spot of John Knox) in Edinburgh, Scotland during our 13-day trip. As I spent time in each of these buildings, I sensed a majestic presence of my Lord that I have never felt before. The wonder of each craftsman's time, effort, love, and devotion to their portion of each building made me think back to the Old Testament book of 1 Kings, chapters 6-8, when King Solomon was building the first Temple. Everything that was crafted and placed in the temple was simply for the glory of God and worship of Him. The grandeur and beauty of Solomon's temple, as well as these more modern cathedrals and churches are examples of God's gifts of talent, splendor, and beauty for mankind to enjoy and to use as a vehicle to draw the worshiper closer to the Creator of all things. Yes, these buildings are manmade, but the presence of God dwells there and He can be found there if one is seeking Him. And the amazing thing is...these are but a shadow of the beauty, glory, and grandeur that we will experience when we finally reach our heavenly home to live with Jesus in Heaven!

The final day of our trip was spent at Stonehenge and then a short trip over to the city of Bath. I knew nothing about this city or its importance in history. I was just along for the ride.

This city was built around a series of hot water springs that were believed to have supernatural powers of healing. A building (temple) was built at the site of the spring head so that the water could be collected into pools. This temple and many of the surrounding buildings date back to pre-Roman times! The water still flows and has its warmth from underground springs to this day. This is a picture that I took of one section of the temple with the water pool.



Of course, as soon as I saw this structure and all of the Roman influences that surrounded it, my mind went immediately to the scripture account found in John 5 about the pool of Bethesda and the paralytic man who spent 38 years waiting by the pool to be healed. If you wish to read this account, the address is John 5:2-9. In my mind I could picture people gathered around this type of pool, waiting for the next miraculous healing to take place. All-of-a-sudden these verses of scripture became so real to me and I could picture the event happening in a place very similar to this. I pictured Jesus walking up to this man, having the conversation they had, and then ultimately telling the paralytic man to “...pick up your pallet and walk.” I will never, ever be able to read this account of Jesus' ministry and not think about Bath, England and what I experienced here.

I am so thankful that God was willing to use an opportunity that I was so stressed and anxious about to bless me with a deeper understanding of His majesty and to see, with profound reality, the truth of His scripture. The places, the people, the events that we almost take for granted because we have read about them so often, were real! They actually occurred and they are not just a group of stories and historical happenings that are meant to make us feel good about who God is.

Oh, that I will open my eyes, mind, and heart to the things that the Lord wants to show me! I pray that this is just the beginning of many “scripture realities” for me.

Blessings,

Terry Duffell - HOPE4Kids Ministry Leader

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, October 19

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

Thursday, October 20

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Friday, October 21

Session Retreat

Saturday, October 22

Session Retreat

Women of HOPE @ 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, October 23

Worship Team Practice @ 8:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Informational Meeting @ 11:00 a.m.

Fellowship Time @ 11:30 a.m.

Monday, October 24

No Staff Meeting today

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship Food - Oct. 23

Church Will Provide

Soundboard - Oct. 23

Benjamin Pierce

Communion Steward - Oct.

Elizabeth Floyd

Greeter - Oct. 23

Joan Rollinson

Volunteer for the Nursery - Oct. 23

Terry Duffell

This Sunday
Scripture Text and Sermon
Matthew 5:6
*"Blessed are those who
Hunger and Thirst for
Righteousness"*



Outreach Ministries

OCTOBER "Food of the Month"

for the Raleigh Dream Center Food Pantry **Canned or Boxed Meals**
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.

Next TLC Devotion

October 26 @ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

NO Sunday School

This Sunday

WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, October 22
@ 1:00 p.m. meeting at the church

MEN of HOPE

Tuesday, November 1 at 7 p.m.
A ZOOM link for the meeting will be sent out beforehand.

Join us!

Starting a new book soon. See Sherif Mikhael for information. We would love to have you join the group.

Quote of the Week

***"It is foolish to pray
against sin and then sin
against prayer."***

John Trapp

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Oct 23	1 Chronicles	12
Oct 24	1 Chronicles	13
Oct 25	1 Chronicles	14
Oct 26	1 Chronicles	15
Oct 27	1 Chronicles	16
Oct 28	1 Chronicles	17
Oct 29	1 Chronicles	18

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.

Menu:

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

Sound Board Volunteers

Needed: The worship team continues to grow, and there is a need to have someone operating the sound board during services. Previous knowledge in this area is not required, and we will be holding a training clinic for those that would like to serve the church in this way. This is a different person from the one that handles ProPresenter with Worship slides.

Contact Lori Estelle if you are interested:

loriestelle@hopechurchraleigh.org

Information Meeting

This Sunday, following a short break after worship, there will be an information meeting to share about the construction and changes at the front of the Sanctuary. Please consider joining in the meeting.

[NO Sunday school](#)

HOPE Church Raleigh

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org

www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

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

Stewardship 2023

***Count Your Blessings
Name Them One by One***

What is Stewardship to you?

How has HOPE Church blessed you?

*Thank you to those who have
submitted answers.*

***Still looking for more answers to these
questions. Please submit them to
Pastor Marty***

