

The Connection

Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 732

May 24, 2023

“Only One Truth!”

Hopefully, anyone reading this article will give me a little bit of a pass on sharing a few pictures of this past weekend when my youngest daughter Emma graduated from High School. I have a purpose behind my glee, so bear with me to the end.



At the Sandhills Classical Christian School graduation ceremony on Friday night, a former Upper School principle gave the keynote speech to the Seniors. Mrs. Margo Rhodes invested much time and effort in leading SCCS forward for a number of years. She retired several years ago and was invited back to speak at this graduation. Margo is not only a former staff member of SCCS, she is a very good friend of our family.

During her speech to the SCCS Seniors, Margo challenged them in several ways, but one of those challenges was to “stay true to who you are”. Of course, this was framed with “stay true to whose you are”. Margo used a number of scripture passages and reminded the Seniors about the world that they are embarking on in college, the work force, and other worldly relationships. Her reminder was to stay true to the foundation they had been given (instructed in) over their SCCS years, through their church, and their families. Margo wanted to remind them to stay true to themselves and not buy into what the world is selling. While tempting and looking great, it is not as it appears and will disappoint you and bring you down.

I’ve thought about Margo’s speech much over the past few days. I had no doubt before she even spoke, that her speech would be well written, full of the Holy Spirit and His Word, and poignant toward what the Seniors

needed to hear, but had not idea how it might resonant with me. My mind, that night, went to **Matthew 7:24 - 27: “Therefore everyone who hears these words of Mine and acts on them, may be compared to a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and yet it did not fall, for it had been founded on the rock. Everyone who hears these words of Mine and does not act on them, will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and slammed against that house; and it fell—and great was its fall.”**

Folks, Margo’s words, while for the SCCS Seniors, should speak loudly to each of us. We all know the world in which we live. We all know the chaos around us. We do not have to travel to New York, LA, Chicago, Atlanta, New Orleans, Seattle, or anywhere else to find evil and chaos, it is right in our own backyards. And unless our foundation is built on Jesus and His Word, it will most certainly fall. You may think otherwise, but this is a certainty.

Yes, we love our neighbor, even love our enemies, as scripture instructs, but we are to never buy into the lies that Satan and this world proclaim as truth. There is **ONLY ONE TRUTH**, and that is Jesus and His Word.

I pray that our Seniors were listening to Margo’s challenges to them. I also pray that in reading this article, you too will be reminded of whose you are and what you have built your foundation on. I pray we all stand on the **TRUTH** and never buy into the lies in the world around us.

I am proud of our SCCS Seniors and of course my daughter Emma who has given her life to her living Savior, Jesus Christ. May she, as well as all of us, continue to grow in our faith as we stand on the firm foundation of Jesus Christ.

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

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, May 24

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

Thursday, May 25

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 27

Women of HOPE @ 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 28

Pentecost Sunday

Worship Team Practice @ 8:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship @ 10:50 a.m.

Sunday School for All Ages
@ 11:10 a.m.

Monday, May 29

Memorial Day

Church Office Closed

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - May 28

Church is Providing

ProPresenter - May 28

Bill Joyner

Soundboard - May 28

Ben Pierce

Live Streaming - May 28

Diane Williams

Communion May

Lynn Joyner

Greeter - May 28

Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - May 28

Terry Duffell

Scripture Text and Sermon
This Sunday

Pentecost Sunday

Acts 2:1 - 13

"The Day Everything Changed"

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

May 28	Proverbs 24
May 29	Proverbs 25
May 30	Proverbs 26
May 31	Proverbs 27
Jun 1	Proverbs 28
Jun 2	Proverbs 29
Jun 3	Proverbs 30



Outreach Ministries

"Food of the Month"

for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Boxed Cereal

We have a collection bin in the foyer

HOPE Meal Ministry

Take a meal from the freezer if
needed for you or someone else.

The Computer Lab

June 10 @ 9:00 a.m.

TLC Devotion

Today, Wednesday, May 24
@ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, May 27
@ 1:00 p.m.

Family Fun Fridays For June

Friday - June 9

Family Game Night

Bring your favorite board game and
challenge another family.

Invite friends and neighbors to join you.
(There will be games available too)

Friday - June 30

Family Movie Night

Our Sanctuary will become
The HOPE Theater

Invite friends and neighbors to join you.

Prayer Requests:

Revill & Mary Lane Mallory,, Jamie Baldwin, Donna Williams, Diane Williams, Carol & Colin (Kathy Herriman's Sister & Brother-in-law), Loretta (Sandi Underwood's daughter), Joan Summers, Jordan & Cinnamon (son and daughter of Lynn Joyner's family members), Tommy and Billy Lanphere (Lynn Joyner's brothers), Gene & Becky Hale, Dave & Dot Geil, 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 Ministries

Wednesday Night Devotion, & Prayer May 24

Devotion @ 7:00 p.m.
Prayer Time @ 7:30 p.m.

A Zoom Link will be available for those who cannot join us in person starting at 7:30 p.m. tonight Wednesday night Devotion & Prayer Time we will be going through a book titled, **"Restored Power"** by Jonathan Graf. We would love for you to join us.

Pentecost Sunday This Sunday - May 28th Celebrating the Birthday of the Church Wear **RED** If you like!

Next Confirmation Class Wednesday, May 31st @ 6:00 p.m.

HOPE Church Raleigh
An Evangelical Presbyterian Church
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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)

Quote of the Week

*"Those who have the New
Jerusalem in their eye must
have the ways that lead to it in
their heart."*

Matthew Henry