

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP . GROW . SERVE .

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 737

June 28, 2023

“BE BOLD!”

Matthew 5:14 - 16: “You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden; nor does anyone light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on the lamp-stand, and it gives light to all who are in the house. Let your light shine before men in such a way that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven.

As many of you know, we were on vacation last week in the Great Smokey Mountains of Tennessee, specifically, Pigeon Forge. On Tuesday evening, after supper, we stopped by a Veteran’s Store I had seen on the strip. I was looking for a specific hat. I doubt many know, but I’m a hat collector. I probably have 40 or 50 hats and when traveling, I look for hats. Anyway, I found a unique hat that I had not seen before.

When I was in the USAF I served at a Military Airlift Command base. The Air Force has other specific designated bases, but after graduating from the Security Police Academy, I was stationed at a MAC base. I had never seen a MAC specific hat, so of course I bought it. With my military discount, I paid \$22 and some change for the hat.



The next day, Wednesday, I wore the hat as we went to Dollywood to spend the day. Before I got inside the park, two different people thanked me for my service. During the day I received a discount for some merchandise we bought because of being “military”. We left the park and went to supper at a restaurant and I was thanked for my service and received a military discount when checking out. The next day I wore the hat and the same thing happened. On Friday I wore the hat the same thing happened all day. By Friday night following supper I was adding up the discounts I had received for those three days and I was up to \$30 worth of savings, more than the cost of the hat. By the way, I didn’t initialize any of the discounts, but was told by someone working at each business I was illegible because of my military service as they noticed my hat.

On Saturday we went to the Bible Museum located in Pigeon Forge. If you are visiting that area, I would highly recommend

you spend some time and take the guided tour. After completing the tour, we went into the Bible Book Store that is attached and on the counter were several hats. One caught my eye and I purchased it. On the front it reads “Christ is King”. On the bill of the hat “I Love Jesus” and on the back of the hat “I Love Jesus”. I wore that the rest of the day and to supper that night. No one had anything to say to me. No, “I love your hat”, or “So glad you love Jesus”, or “Christ is my King too”. No, “I’m so glad you belong to Jesus” or “So glad you are saved”.



This got me thinking. We are quick to acknowledge someone who served in the military, thanking them, giving discounts, etc., but no acknowledgment for who I serve. No acknowledgment of where my final destination is, or my love of Jesus. Nothing.

Now to be honest, I really didn’t expect anyone to say anything, but as I thought more about it, why not? Shouldn’t I say something to someone who is sporting a shirt or T-shirt with something to do with “Christianity”? Can’t I say, “Hey, love your shirt” or “Hey, so glad your are a follow of Jesus” or maybe “Hey, we are heading to the same place”! Doesn’t Jesus say in the Sermon on the Mount to “Let your light shine before men”? Letting it shine could be wearing clothing, but also could be acknowledging someone else. We aren’t supposed to hide our light, which means BE BOLD!

You will see me wearing my “Christ Is King” hat from time to time and I’ve decided if I see someone else acknowledging their faith in Christ, I’m going to say something to them. And, I’ll let you know how that turns out. If you do the same, shoot me an email. I would love to hear about the interaction.

BE BOLD my friends. Jesus is counting on us to spread the Gospel. Today is a great day to do just that.

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

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, June 28

TLC Devotion @ 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday Night Devotion & Prayer
@ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, June 29

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Friday, June 30

Family Fun Friday @ 6:30 p.m.
Movie Night
Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe

Sunday, July 2

Worship Team Practice @ 8:00 a.m.
Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship @ 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School @ 11:10 a.m.

Monday, July 3

Staff Meeting @ 9:00 a.m.

Tuesday, July 4

Independence Day

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - July 2

Church is Providing

ProPresenter - July 2

Elizabeth Floyd

Soundboard - July 2

Ben Pierce

Live Streaming - July 2

Franklin Johnston

Communion July

Sandra Pierce

Greeter - July 2

Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - July 2

Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon
This Sunday

Matthew 7:24 - 29
"Foundational Truths"

Daily Devotions For This Coming Week

| | | |
|------|---|-----------|
| July | 2 | Isaiah 8 |
| July | 3 | Isaiah 9 |
| July | 4 | Isaiah 10 |
| July | 5 | Isaiah 11 |
| July | 6 | Isaiah 12 |
| July | 7 | Isaiah 13 |
| July | 8 | Isaiah 14 |



Outreach Ministries

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

Canned Meats

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

July 8 @ 9:00 a.m.

TLC Devotion

Today, Wednesday, June 28
@ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, July 8
@ 1:00 p.m.

Family Fun Fridays For June

Friday - June 30 @ 6:30 p.m.

Family Movie Night

Come watch C.S. Lewis's

The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe

Our Sanctuary will become

The HOPE Theater

Invite friends and neighbors to join in.

For July

Friday - July 21 @ 6:30 PM
Team Bible Trivia

For August

Friday - August 4 @ 6:30 PM
Friday - August 18 @ 6:30 PM

Quote of the Week

*"Success is the continuing
achievement of becoming the
person God wants you to be."*

Charles Stanley

Prayer Requests:

Reville & 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
June 28**

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 7:00 p.m. tonight

We would love for you
to join us.

Confirmation Class

Coming Dates

Sunday, July 2 @ 12:15 p.m.

Sunday, July 23 @ 12:15 p.m.

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)