

# The Connection

## Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 739

July 12, 2023

### “Active Faith”

In a recent Youth Sunday school class, we talked about the concept of Active (vs. Passive) Faith. Active faith is basically proving your faith in God by living out that faith in your own life. Walking the walk, instead of just talking the talk, so to speak.

Ray Pritchard said, in his article *The Fifth Law: Active Faith Releases God’s Power*: “True faith is never passive. True faith moves us to act, to do, to try, to build, to attempt, to expand, to say ‘no’ to sin and ‘yes’ to righteousness, to join, to speak out, to move forward, to dare to dream beyond our means, and to walk around Jericho again and again until at last ‘the walls come tumblin’ down.’ Faith is ‘outrageous trust in God.’ ‘Outrageous trust’ is what you have when you build an ark hundreds of miles from any body of water. ‘Outrageous trust’ compels you to leave your home not knowing where you are going. And ‘outrageous trust’ sends you into the Elah Valley to face Goliath.”

Now would be a good time to go to your Bible and read James 2: 14-26 and Hebrews 11 & 12.

Let’s add to this list: Esther, Job, Shadrach (Hananiah), Meshach (Mishael), and Abednego (Azariah). I’m sure you can think of others... of the Bible, historical figures, or in your own lifetime.

Charles Spurgeon, speaking on Job 13:15, said “In speaking on this text I would note, first, THAT FAITH IS THE HABITUAL GRACE OF THE CHRISTIAN. To trust in God is his usual mode of life. He does not sometimes trust and sometimes cease to trust; but “the just shall live by faith.” Faith is not a grace of luxury but a grace of necessity. We must have it, and if we do not have it, we would not be the people of God at all. The common habit of the Christian then, is a habit of trusting. The Christian’s walk is faith, and his life is faith.”

While reading online, I found this quote from an article by Kim Sullivan: “So often, the English language equates faith with the word ‘believe’. The problem with this definition is that believing is not nearly as concrete as faith. Belief often remains on the sidelines as a spectator, while faith requires action. Being faithful means adhering to the truth, having fidelity to what is most important in reality. Although one

must believe in order to have faith, faith is not required to believe.” (Dead or Alive?: Cultivating Active Faith from familyfire.com)

My parents live in a very small town (population about 900) named Reynolds, which is in the middle part of the state of Georgia. They attend what is now called Trinity Church, a non-denominational church. About a month ago, Trinity Church had its first worship service as a new church, after being a Methodist church (first Methodist Episcopal, then United Methodist) since 1870. My dad was born in Reynolds and grew up in the Reynolds UMC. The majority of the Reynolds UMC members stepped out in faith, led by their belief in the authority of God’s word, and formed a new church. They don’t have a pastor yet, but they will. In the meanwhile, they have preachers lined up for months to come, and their congregation is growing. God rewards the faithful.

“Stay awake, stand firm in your faith, be brave, be strong.”- 1 Corinthians 16:13

With love,  
Erin Hutchins - HOPE4Youth Leader - HOPE Church Raleigh  
Worship . Grow . Serve

# HOPE Calendar

**Wednesday, July 12**

**NO** Wednesday Night Devotion & Prayer Tonight

**Thursday, July 13**

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

**Saturday, July 15**

The Computer Lab @ 9:00 a.m.

**Sunday, July 16**

Worship Team Practice @ 8:00 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship @ 10:50 a.m.

Sunday School @ 11:10 a.m.

Green Chair Project Meeting

@ 12:00 p.m.

**Monday, July 17**

Staff Meeting @ 9:00 a.m.

## Helping Hands Ministries

**Fellowship - July 16**

*Church is Providing*

**ProPresenter - July 16**

*Elizabeth Floyd*

**Soundboard - July 16**

*Elizabeth Floyd*

**Live Streaming - July 16**

*Al Floyd*

**Communion July**

*Sandra Pierce*

**Greeter - July 16**

*Joan Rollinson*

**Nursery Volunteer - July 16**

*Volunteer Needed*

Scripture Text and Sermon  
This Sunday

Isaiah 43:13 - 19  
"Revival"

Elder Bill Joyner Preaching



## 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 12 @ 9:00 a.m.

**TLC Devotion**

Today, Wednesday, July 26

@ 11:00 a.m.

## Spiritual Growth Ministries

**WOMEN of HOPE**

Saturday, July 22

@ 1:00 p.m.

## Family Fun Fridays

**For July**

Friday - July 21 @ 6:30 PM

**Team Bible Trivia**

Invite friends and neighbors to join in.

**For August**

Friday - August 4 @ 6:30 PM

Friday - August 18 @ 6:30 PM

## 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  
July 12**

**NO**  
Devotion & Prayer Time  
Tonight

## Confirmation Class

**Coming Dates**

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

**Sunday, August 6 @ 12:15 p.m.**

**Sunday, August 20 @ 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](http://www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org)

[www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh](https://www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh)

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

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

## Daily Devotions

### For This Coming Week

July 16	Isaiah 22
July 17	Isaiah 23
July 18	Isaiah 24
July 19	Isaiah 25
July 20	Isaiah 26
July 21	Isaiah 27
July 22	Isaiah 28

## Quote of the Week

**"The Christ who rules us  
rules all things for us."**

**J. I. Packer**