

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP. GROW. SERVE.

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 747

September 6, 2023

“Each Day”

Isn't it interesting how certain dates throughout the year affect us mentally. Here are several examples.

I am writing this article on Labor Day 2023. The first Labor Day parade was in New York City in 1882. Labor Day became a Federal Holiday in 1894, signed by President Grover Cleveland. For most of us mentally, Labor Day marks the end of Summer and the beginning of Fall, though the Fall season begins this year on Saturday, September 23. For me, it is almost like, let me celebrate the end of Summer on Labor Day because Fall is beginning.

Thanksgiving seems to usher in the “Holiday Season” in our minds. Thanksgiving being the bridge, because on “Black Friday” many hit the holiday running.

Of course Christmas, for Christians (and others) is a time to celebrate Christ's birth, gather with family, give gifts, etc. But Christmas also reminds us, mentally, the year is ending. Mentally, we begin to think about all that has happened this year to us, in our families, our lives. Things that are significant both positively and negatively.

It doesn't take long for the switch to happen though. New Year's day is but a week away from Christmas. Mentally our minds jump frantically to the future. What will this new year bring? How is time passing so rapidly? I can't believe I'm going to be this old this year! Thoughts begin to flood our minds. Will I be able to make it through this year unscathed by sickness, disease, and heartache.

The next holiday that really catches our attention is Easter. Again, both Christian and non-Christian observe this holiday, but for different reasons. For the Christian, the holiday is about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For the non-Christian, it is a day off work. For both, it often reminds us that Spring is here. Flowers are budding, the grass is turning green, and there is a sense of freshness in the air. Spring time is probably my favorite season of the year.

Finally, one more significant transition on our minds on the calendar of life and that is Memorial Day. Though Summer does not officially begin until Thursday, June 20, 2024 at 4:51 p.m., in our minds, school is over, summers begins, let's start the vacation plans.

You don't have to agree with my selected holidays and that is okay. You don't even have to agree that they affect you mentally in the ways they do me or ways that I've suggested. But I believe that anyone reading this article has some dates or times during the year that cause transition in your mind. Instead of a holiday, it may simply be a date, a birth date, an anniversary, a family member or friend's death date, and so on. What comes next seems to be always on our minds.

Psalm 95:7 “For He is our God, And we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand. **Today**, if you would hear His voice...”

Hebrews 13:8 “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and **today** and forever.”

Deuteronomy 6:24 “So the Lord commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the Lord our God for our good always and for our survival, as it is **today**.”

Deuteronomy 7:11 “Therefore, you shall keep the commandment and the statutes and the judgments which I am commanding you **today**, to do them.”

Deuteronomy 4:39 “Know therefore **today**, and take it to your heart, that the Lord, He is God in heaven above and on the earth below; there is no other.”

(All bold and underlines added to all scriptures)

God has ordered our days. We have only 24 hours in a day that He has given us. Each day is a gift from Him. Yes, there are significant dates over a calendar year that move us mentally, but what about EACH DAY? Shouldn't we each day of every week, of every month, of every year of our life, mentally have God on our mind. Shouldn't our life be so ordered that from waking to lying down is for Him, our thoughts are on Him, we are serving Him?

Man, am I trying to do that, but it is hard with all the other distractions of life that come at me so fast and hard. But I will tell you, the more I think about it, EACH DAY for Him, EACH DAY serving Him, the more I AM able to do it. Where are you mentally today? Focused on Him or on self and the world?

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

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, September 6

Wednesday Night Bible Study & Prayer @ 7:00 p.m.

Thursday, September 7

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, September 9

The Computer Lab @ 9:00 a.m.
Women of HOPE @ 1:00 p.m.

Sunday, September 10

Worship Team Practice @ 8:15 a.m.
Worship @ 9:30 a.m.
Fellowship @ 10:50 a.m.
Sunday School @ 11:10 a.m.
Session Meeting @ 12:00 p.m.
Baptism at Falls Lake @ 4:00 p.m.

Monday, September 11

Staff Meeting @ 11:15 a.m.

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - September 10
Church is Providing

ProPresenter - September 10
Bill Joyner

Soundboard - September 10
Ben Pierce

Live Streaming - September 10
Diane Williams

Communion - September
Lynn Joyner

Greeter - September 10
Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - September 10
Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon

This Sunday

1 Samuel 1:9 - 20

“Living Well in a
Broken World -

Placing Life in God’s Hands”



Outreach Ministries

“Food of the Month”

for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Boxes 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

Saturday, September 9 @ 9:00 a.m.

TLC Devotion

Wednesday, September 27
@ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, September 9
@ 1:00 p.m.

Confirmation Sunday September 17

Confirmation Sunday is schedule for
Sunday, September 17th. Our
Confirmands will profess their faith and
join HOPE Church that day.

**Nursery Workers Provided
during Worship only.**

We want to celebrate this day with them,
so please plan to attend worship that day.
We also want to love on them, so we will
have a **Covered-Dish Lunch** following
Worship. Please plan to bring several
dishes to share, for we will have a number
of guests with us that Sunday.

Quote of the Week

**“God never said that the journey
would be easy, but He did say
that the arrival would be
worthwhile.”**

Max Lucado

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,
Shelley, Diane Mack’s Sister-in-law,
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 Bible Study, & Prayer September 6

Devotion & Prayer Time
Tonight @ 7:00 p.m.

Study of the Book of Jonah

Bring your Bibles

A Zoom Link will be available for those who
cannot meet in person.

**Wednesday Night Supper, Study, &
Prayer will resume on September 13th.**

Baptism

On September 10th at 4:00 p.m., we
invite you to join HOPE Church Raleigh
at Sandling Beach (Falls Lake) off of
Highway 50 for the Baptism of Ezekiel
Terribili (Lori’s son). We will gather at
Shelter #1. We have the shelter
reserved all day on the 10th, so if you
want to get there early and enjoy the
lake, that is okay. We will enjoy some
fellowship time following the baptism
with grilled Hamburgers and Hot Dogs.

Next Session Meeting

Sunday, Sept. 10 @ 12:00 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)

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Sep 10	Jeremiah 12
Sep 11	Jeremiah 13
Sep 12	Jeremiah 14
Sep 13	Jeremiah 15
Sep 14	Jeremiah 16
Sep 15	Jeremiah 17
Sep 16	Jeremiah 18