

# The Connection

## Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 748

September 13, 2023

## “Greater Love Has No One!”

**John 15:13** “Greater love has no one than this, that one lay down his life for his friends.”

I cannot pass through this week and not think about 9/11; where I was and what I was doing. All the world stopped and had their eyes on one thing, the terrorist attack on American soil. It was a horrendous day.

The following are some of the numeric facts from that day: The September 11 attacks of 2001 caused the deaths of 2,996 people, including 2,977 victims and 19 hijackers who committed murder–suicide. Thousands more were injured, and long-term health effects have arisen as a consequence of the attacks. New York City took the brunt of the death toll when the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center complex in Lower Manhattan were attacked, with an estimated 1,600 victims from the North Tower and around 1000 from the South Tower. Two hundred miles southwest in Arlington County, Virginia, another 125 were killed in the Pentagon. The remaining 265 fatalities included the 92 passengers and crew of American Airlines Flight 11, the 65 aboard United Airlines Flight 175, the 64 on American Airlines Flight 77 and the 44 who boarded United Airlines Flight 93. The attack on the World Trade Center's North Tower single-handedly made 9/11 the deadliest act of terrorism in human history. Most of those who perished were civilians except for 343 members of the New York City Fire Department and 71 law enforcement officers who died in the World Trade Center and on the ground in New York City.



As a veteran, my mind goes to two events during my four years in the US Air Force. The first being, when I was sworn in, in Raleigh on September 9, 1976. "I, Marty Duffell, do solemnly swear that I will support and defend the Constitution of the United States against all enemies, foreign and domestic; that I will bear true faith and allegiance to the same; and that I will obey the orders of the President of the United States and the orders of the officers

appointed over me, according to regulations and the Uniform Code of Military Justice. So help me God." To that I said "I Will." It hit me immediately that I swore to give my life to protect and defend my country and its citizens. My answer was, "I will swear to do that."

The second event in my enlisted career as an USAF Security Policeman was when the hostages were taken in 1979 by the Iranian government. We immediately went on "high alert" and worked 24 hours on 24 hours off duty for months. Everyone was suspect for search coming onto our base. It was a very grueling and tense time for me and all of my friends who served. Again, we swore to defend and protect.

When you look at the 9/11 attacks, we see 414 First Responders lost their lives that day. Remember though, there were not just 414 First Responders that responded. So many of them did their job that day and lived to tell about it. All who responded that day were willing to give their life for another.

At the Pentagon, these men and women went to work that day thinking it would be a normal day, yet 125 of them died. There were active duty military that responded to help those injured and dead. Again, willing to give their life of another.

**John 19:30** “Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.”

At the appointed time, God the Father sent God the Son from heaven to earth to give His life for others, for the sins of the world, for all who will ever believe in Him. He did not run from death, but gave His life that I and others might live. Live, not just in this world, but forever and eternally with Him!

I am grateful for every single one of our First Responders. I was one and I am thankful for them all. But, most of all, I am thankful for Jesus, that He conquered sin and death. He did so that I might live. There is no greater One that has ever lived or will live but Jesus.

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

# HOPE Calendar

## Wednesday, September 13

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

## Thursday, September 14

Worship Team Practice @ 6:30 p.m.

## Saturday, September 16

Green Chair Collection @ 9:00 a.m.

## Sunday, September 17

### Confirmation Sunday

Worship Team Practice @ 8:15 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Covered Dish Meal @ 11:00 a.m.

## Monday, September 18

Staff Meeting @ 11:15 a.m.

## Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - September 17

*Church is Providing*

ProPresenter - September 17

*Emma Duffell*

Soundboard - September 17

*Jane Davis*

Live Streaming - September 17

*Diane Williams*

Communion - September

*Lynn Joyner*

Greeter - September 17

*Joan Rollinson*

Nursery Volunteer - September 17

*Volunteer Needed*

## Scripture Text and Sermon This Sunday

Luke 14:25 - 27

“In Pursuit”



## 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, October 14 @ 9:00 a.m.

### TLC Devotion

Wednesday, September 27

@ 11:00 a.m.

## Spiritual Growth Ministries

### WOMEN of HOPE

Saturday, September 23

@ 1:00 p.m.

## Confirmation Sunday September 17

This Sunday our Confirmands will profess  
their faith and join HOPE Church.

We want to celebrate this day with them,  
so please plan to attend worship this  
Sunday. We also want to love on them  
and 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.

## 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,  
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 Supper, Study, & Prayer September 13

Tonight @ 6:15 p.m.

Study of Exodus

### Bring your Bibles

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

## Confirmation Sunday

We anticipate having a  
number of guests with us this  
Sunday at HOPE, so if you are  
able, and don't need to park  
close, would you consider  
using the grass area or the  
parking lot in the Business  
Park next to the church this  
Sunday? We would love  
everyone to wear their name  
tag also.

### 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

Sep 17	Jeremiah 19
Sep 18	Jeremiah 20
Sep 19	Jeremiah 21
Sep 20	Jeremiah 22
Sep 21	Jeremiah 23
Sep 22	Jeremiah 24
Sep 23	Jeremiah 25

## Quote of the Week

*“Deep, contented joy comes  
from a place of complete  
security and confidence in God.”*

Charles Swindoll