

The Connection

Messages of Hope



HOPE
CHURCH | RALEIGH
WORSHIP . GROW . SERVE .

A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 757

November 15, 2023

“Touched by A Song”

As we start our search for a new Worship Leader we realize the importance of songs. Music moves us and brings us into worship and our fellowship with Jesus.

It is good that the selection of the worship leader search team did not include me. Some questions in the interview might have been: Are you familiar with southern gospel? Have you listened to The Cathedrals, The Gaither Vocal Band, or The Kingsmen Quartet? Hope is in good hands with the Worship Leader Team that has been selected, and I am sure they will be led to select the one God wants to lead us in our future worship with song.

The following are some of the verses of particular songs that have a special significance to me. May I take you on a journey with some songs and their history that have touched my heart with feelings and memories, and maybe they have yours also through the years.

Amazing Grace

I am sure you have lost count of the times you have sung or listened to this song. “Amazing Grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me. I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see” These words are the reflections of John Newton, a slave trader who eventually became a minister and penned the famous words Amazing Grace for a sermon for his New Year’s service in 1773. He wrote it as a meditation on 1 Chronicles 17:16-17.

Precious Memories

“Precious memories, how they linger, how they ever flood my soul. In the stillness of the midnight precious sacred scenes unfold.” This song is a traditional gospel song credited to J.B.F. Wright in 1925. Wright was born in Tennessee on February 21, 1887. The hymn was first recorded by The Turkey Mountain Singers in 1928. “Precious Memories” was written out of tragedy, when the Wright’s lost their five year old son, Everette Jackson Wright in 1922. The author said, “Precious Memories” was born in the midnight hours as I bathed my pillow with tears.

Farther Along

“Soon we will see our dear, loving Savior, hear the last trumpet sound through the sky; then we will meet those gone on before us, then we shall know and understand why.” “Farther Along” is a beautiful southern gospel hymn created in the early 20th century. It’s theme focuses on trusting that the truth will eventually be revealed to us and we’ll understand why things have happened.

There’ll Be Peace in the Valley for Me

“There will be peace in the valley for me some day. There will be peace in the valley for me. I pray no more sorrow and sadness or trouble will be; there will be peace in the valley for me”. This song written in 1937 by Thomas A. Dorsey was copyrighted by Dorsey on January 25, 1939, though it often appears informally as “Peace in the Valley”. Thomas would become the best known African-American composer of gospel music in America. He was on a train going through southern Indiana when he passed through

a valley. Horses, cows, and sheep were all grazing together in that little valley. A little brook was running through it and everything seemed so peaceful. It caused him to wonder what was wrong with mankind. As he traveled he wrote down the words to this hymn.

President Lyndon B. Johnson, before his death, requested that this hymn be sung at his funeral; Anita Bryant was chosen to fulfill that request.

Jesus Paid it All

“Jesus paid it all. All to Him I owe. Sin had left a crimson stain. He washed it white as snow.” The song lyrics were written in 1865 by Elvin’s M. Hall, a 45 year old widowed congregant of Monument Methodist Episcopal Church in Baltimore, Maryland. One Sunday morning, with an extremely long pastoral prayer and a continuous sermon, Mrs. Hall’s thoughts began to wander and she wrote down a poem that came to her on the blank fly leaf of her hymnal. The song references many bible verses, including Romans 5 (“Jesus sacrifice gives life”) and Isaiah 1:18 (“a crimson flow”)

In the Garden

“He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing; and the melody that He gave to me within my heart is ringing.” In the Garden is a gospel song written by American songwriter C. Austin Miles (1868-1946), a former pharmacist who served as editor and manager of Hall-Mack publishers for 37 years. Here is the account of C Austin Miles, himself, “One day in April 1912, I was seated in the dark room where I kept my photographic equipment, and also my organ. I drew my Bible toward me and it opened at my favorite book and chapter, John chapter twenty. I don’t know if if this was by chance or by the work of the Holy Spirit. I will let you the reader decide. That story of Jesus and Mary in John 20 had lost none of its power and charm.” The opening line, “I come to the garden alone” comes for John 20:1, with Mary arriving early at the tomb, and the garden context coming from John 20:15. The references to Jesus speaking with Mary relate to John 20:14-17.

I encourage you to go to your special place and listen for the voice of Jesus as he speaks to your heart. In the coming months as we are on this journey in the life of Hope Church Raleigh, allow His voice to help you discern His will for your life. Also remember to keep the Worship Leader Search Team in your prayers.

God bless!

Bill Joyner - Elder, Hope Church Raleigh
Worship . Grow . Serve

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, November 15

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

Thursday, November 16

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Saturday, November 18

The Computer Lab @ 9:00 a.m.

Sunday, November 19

Worship Team Practice @ 8:30 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Annual Meeting @ 11:00 a.m.

Session REBOOT Meeting

Wednesday, November 22

NO WEDNESDAY NIGHT MINISTRY

Thursday, November 23

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - November 19

Church is Providing

ProPresenter - November 19

Elizabeth Floyd

Soundboard - November 19

Jane Davis

Live Streaming - November 19

Diane Williams

Communion - November

Sandra Pierce

Greeter - November 19

Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - November 19

Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon

This Sunday

The Parables of Jesus

Matthew 13:31 - 32

"The Parable of the Mustard Seed"

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Nov 19	Ezekiel 25
Nov 20	Ezekiel 26
Nov 21	Ezekiel 27
Nov 22	Ezekiel 28
Nov 23	Ezekiel 29
Nov 24	Ezekiel 30
Nov 25	Ezekiel 31



Outreach Ministries

Scroll to Page #3 For Christmas Outreach Opportunities

"Food of the Month"

for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Pop Top Soups

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, November 18

@ 9:00 a.m.

TLC Devotion

NO TLC Devotion held in
November

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Women of HOPE

Saturday, November 25

@ 1:00 p.m.

Last Wednesday Night Supper until January

Tonight will be our last Wed. Night
supper until January. We will have a
Devotional and Prayer Time begin 11/29
through 12/20. Wed. Night Supper,
Study, and Prayer resumes 1/3/24

Quote of the Week

"It is the oldest stratagem of
Satan to disfigure the truth by
misrepresentation."

Iain Murray

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 Supper, Study, & Prayer November 15

@ 6:15 p.m.

Study of Exodus

Bring your Bibles

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

Menu:

Spaghetti, Salad, French Bread &
Dessert

Upcoming Dates

Annual Meeting of the HOPE Congregation

This Sunday @ 11:00 a.m.

Hanging of the Greens

Saturday, December 2 @ 10:00 a.m.

Advent Season Begins

Sunday, December 3

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)

Christmas Gifts for Homeless Children at Millbrook East Middle School

HOPE Church,

We are partnering with two other North Raleigh Area Churches to provide gifts to the homeless children at Millbrook East Middle School. These children have been identified for us by the Wake County DSS. In fact, we are coordinating the gift distribution with a social worker at the school. This was at the recommendation of a police officer who works with at-risk kids in Wake County schools. New Hope Baptist and Longview Baptist are the other two churches helping to support this gift giving opportunity. Here is how this will work for our congregation.

Christmas gifts:

1. You can purchase a \$25.00 Walmart or Target gift cards. We would like the children to know that these gifts reflect the true meaning of Christmas, so if you can, please enclose the gift card inside a Christmas card.
2. You can purchase Christmas treats and/or stocking stuffers [unwrapped]
3. You can donate money which will be used to purchase additional gift cards. Please notate on your Check "Gifts for the Homeless Children".

Due date is Sunday: December 10th.

Church Entrance Changes:

The HOPE Session would like to inform you of a change in entering the church, starting this Sunday. We will have only ONE entry door to the church. Both front doors can be used as exit doors.

Here is how this will work. The door that leads into the Fellowship Area will be the entry door from now on. The door leading directly into the Sanctuary will be ONLY an exit door. This door will remain locked for entry, but you are able to exit through that door at any time.

Again, either of the front doors can be used to exit the building. Signage will be in place for all to see to help with these changes.

HOPE Church Raleigh