

The Connection

Messages of Hope



A Weekly Online Newsletter: Edition 779

April 17, 2024

“A Lamp On A Hill”

A story is told of an elderly Christian widow who resided in a lonely cottage high on a cliff over-looking the sea. She was frequently distressed when she saw the debris from wrecked fishing boats that had washed up on the shore. At other times, the piteous cries of perishing crewmen pierced her heart.

One stormy night when the howling wind made her more apprehensive than usual, an idea suddenly occurred to her. Perhaps if she placed a lamp in her front window, it might act as a small beacon to warn unwary seamen of the treacherous coast.

She heard later that its light had been seen and had aided some sailors who were lost in the raging tempest. From then on, she kept it burning from dusk to sunrise. Over the years many endangered fisherman had cause to thank her for her helpfulness.

Psalm 18:28

For You light my lamp; The Lord my God illumines my darkness.

Psalm 119:105

**Your word is a lamp to my feet
And a light to my path.**

Matthew 5:14 - 16

14 “You are the light of the world. A city set on a [f]hill cannot be hidden; 15 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. 16 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.

Matthew 6:22

“The eye is the lamp of the body; so then if your eye is clear, your whole body will be full of light

It is amazing what a little light will do in the darkness. On a cloudy night when the moon is covered, walk outside around midnight with a flashlight and move away from any source of light from your home or security lights. Once in complete darkness, turn the flashlight on and then back off and notice the huge difference. Do it several times. I think we forget what light can do in the darkness.

We are studying Exodus on Wednesday night and we have just finished chapter 13 where Moses tells us that God provided a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Can you imagine that sight? A pillar of fire that stood for protection, illumination, and acknowledged the presence of Jehovah God. That had to be an awesome sight.

But as God illuminates our lives by His presence in us and through His word for us, He has called us to illumine the way. Be a city on a hill that shines bright. This call is to be both corporate as the church, His bride, and individually as sons and daughters of the Light.

John 8:12 Then Jesus again spoke to them, saying, “I am the Light of the world; he who follows Me will not walk in the darkness, but will have the Light of life.”

As we walk with Him, His light shines in and through us. We become the light, as the light that the elderly widow placed in her window to protect the fishermen from death. We can shine the light in the darkness. We can shine a light on sin.

Folks, do others see the Light of Christ in you? Is your light bright and shining for others to see? Is it a flicker, or even about to go out? Ignite the fire again. Ignite your passion for the Lord and regain the light of the One who is the LIGHT of the WORLD.

I am so thankful for those who have crossed my path in my life that had the light of Christ on full display in their lives. What a difference they made in me. May it be said of you and me by someone that our light made a difference in their lives for Christ. How cool would that be?

Thanks you Jesus for placing Your Light in me.

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

HOPE Calendar

Wednesday, April 17

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

Friday, April 19

Worship Team Practice @ 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, April 21

Worship Team Practice @ 8:00 a.m.

Worship @ 9:30 a.m.

Fellowship Time @ 10:50 a.m.

Sunday school @ 11:10 a.m.

Wednesday, April 24

TLC Devotion @ 11:00 a.m.

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

Helping Hands Ministries

Fellowship - April 21

Church is Providing

ProPresenter - April 21

Bill Joyner

Soundboard - April 21

Benjamin Pierce

Live Streaming - April 21

Diane Williams

Communion - April

Elizabeth Floyd

Greeter - April 21

Joan Rollinson

Nursery Volunteer - April 21

Volunteer Needed

Scripture Text and Sermon This Sunday

Luke 15:1 - 7

“The Lost Sheep”

Daily Devotions

For This Coming Week

Apr	21	Luke	8
Apr	22	Luke	9
Apr	23	Luke	10
Apr	24	Luke	11
Apr	25	Luke	12
Apr	26	Luke	13
Apr	27	Luke	14

Outreach Ministries

“Food of the Month”

for the Raleigh Dream Center
Food Pantry

Boxed 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.

TLC Devotion

4th Wednesday each Month
@ 11:00 a.m.

Spiritual Growth Ministries

Women of HOPE

Saturday, April 27

@ 1:00 p.m.

Wednesday Night

Supper, Study, & Prayer Tonight

Supper @ 6:15 p.m.

Bible Study @ 7:00 p.m.

Prayer Time @ 8:45 p.m.

Menu:

Pork Roast, Mashed Potatoes,

Baked Beans, Rolls & Dessert

We are studying Exodus

Presbytery of the Coastal Mid-Atlantic

Will hold our Presbytery Meeting on

April 26 & 27 @ Trinity EPC,

Florence, SC

Please be in prayer for all the

Commissioners

Quote of the Week

*“God’s Word hidden in your
heart is the sword of the Spirit,
available for battle at any time
against sin and Satan.”*

The Navigators

Prayer Requests:

Reville & Mary Lane Mallory, Jamie
Baldwin, Ron Clifton, Donna 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, Ellie
Tappan, Dave & Dot Geil, Carlyle and
Cynthia Franklin (Sandra Pierce’s dad
and stepmom), 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.

HOPE - REBOOT NOW

Everyday Prayer

For

The Vision Team

The Session

The Congregation

Mother’s Day 2024

Sunday, May 12th

NO Sunday School that Day

Extended Fellowship Time

**Susie Savino, our new
Worship Leader, will be with
us again this Sunday. Then
a couple more times in the
month of May before she
officially begins on June 1st.**

HOPE Church Raleigh

An Evangelical Presbyterian Church

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Worship Time: 9:30 AM

www.HopeChurchRaleigh.org

www.facebook.com/HOPEChurchRaleigh

Twitter: @HopeChRaleigh

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