



Thursday September 10, 2009

World Trade Center first responder Fabrizio Bivona lost several friends and colleagues eight years ago in the attacks on New York City. On Thursday night he stopped by the University of Virginia to share his memories with students and express his hopes for the future.

"It brings it all back," Bivona said of the images of 9/11. "It brings back the smell that day. It brings back the sounds that day. It brings back a sense of helplessness."

Bivona says he took some solace in the response he saw following the attacks, but adds that things have changed in America.

"There was a rally in the country that put apart partisan differences, put apart race, color, creed, and we all really came together as a nation with a common purpose," Bivona said. "I wish, quite frankly, it had lasted a little longer than it has. You know, I think we've fallen back into the old routine."

At the event, sponsored by the Burke Society, students took in an acapella performance, joined in prayer with the chaplain of the Charlottesville Police Department and later held a candlelight vigil at the Ampitheatre.

On Friday morning at 7 o'clock, they planned to put out 800 flags in honor of the victims of 9/11.