

# Great Swamp

BAPTIST CHURCH



FEBRUARY 4, 2018

# *Great Swamp Baptist Church*

February 4, 2018  
Sunday Morning Worship  
11:00 AM

## **Prelude**

## **The Welcome**

Announcements

*Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

## **Call to Worship**

*Hymn #10 "How Great Thou Art"*

## **Invocation**

*Robert O'Dell*

## **Selections of Praise & Worship**

*"Happy Day"*

*"Shout to the Lord"*

## **We Pray for Special Needs**

Pastoral & Offertory Prayer

*Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

Offertory

Special Music

*GSBC Praise Band*

*"Lead Me to the Cross"*

## **Message**

*Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

## **Invitation**

## **Benediction**



### Greeters

*Today: Annette Malphrus / Krey Lowther*  
*Next Week: Olivia Stanley / Krey Lowther*

### Nursery Workers

*Today: Diane Thames / Chesney*

*Next Week: Vanessa Smoak / Jennifer Meador*



### Children's Church Helpers

*Today: Emma Mingledorff / Kaylee Standard*

*Next Week: Olivia Stanley / Angel Cole*

## DEACON OF THE WEEK :



*Today: Robert O'Dell*

*843-422-9521*

*Next Week: Bjo Mills*

*843-271-2840*



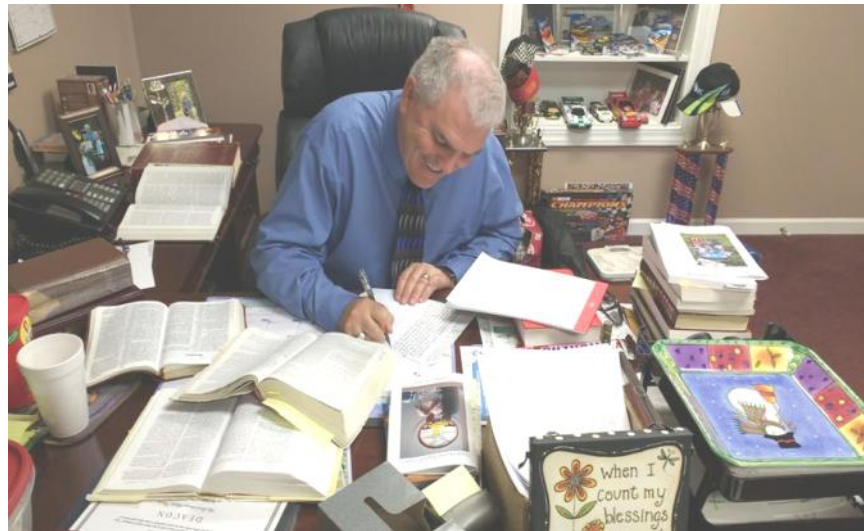
### Toll Committee

*For February*

*Bernice Malphrus*

*Bonnie Pope*





*From Pastor Ralph's Desk:*

## **The Most Excellent Way**

*(1 Cor. 12:31-13:13)*

*We have finally come to the conclusion of my series of messages from this great and amazing portion of the Word of God. We've entitled this series of messages exactly what the verses themselves entitled it, "The Most Excellent Way" (1 Cor. 12:31). Of course, we also know from these verses that the most excellent way is the sway of love.*

*Now over these past few months, we've noticed several different aspects of the most excellent way of love. First, we examined the prominence and priority of love. Second, we looked at the principles and properties of love. The last thing that we noticed was the perseverance of love.*

*Today, we will examine, our final aspect of the most excellent way of love. It relates back to all the other points we already examined but also drives home the absolute fact that the way of love is the most excellent way by showing us that love is the one thing that will not only outlast so many others great characteristics and ministries but will be the one thing that will be permanent. Many things that are even good here and now will fade away but love will never fade away.*

*Verse eight begins with three words, “Love never fails.” Now, the word fail here has the basic meaning of something falling particularly a final fall. Like a leaf or flower that comes to the end of its cycle and withers up and dies. It then becomes loose and falls to the ground where it finally decays. There will be no time in all of eternity where divine love will ever wither, die, fall to the ground and decay. For God is love and God is eternal. Praise be to our Great God.*

**I. First, the most excellent way of love is permanent and deserves our attention.(vs. 8-10)**

*In these verses, we find three incredible gifts mentioned. They are prophesy, tongues, and knowledge. Now, these gifts have played an important role in the building up of the church. However, Paul reveals to us that they are not and will not be permanent. Once they have accomplished their role they will cease to be.*

*However, unlike the aforementioned gifts, Paul reminds us that the most excellent way of love will never cease to be in all of eternity. So, Paul wanted the believers at Corinth, as well as here today, to understand that our focus of attention must always remain on the one thing that we know is going to be here for all eternity. Really, what brought up the whole discussion of this chapter was the fact that the Corinthians were focusing on their spiritual gifts. Although after using them in a wrong manner, however, they were not practicing love. So, Paul is saying love is most important because love will be permanent therefore it should receive our individual attention over all other things.*

*So let me ask you a question, would people say that we as a church and as individuals that we above everything else is giving our undivided attention to love?*

**II. Second, the most excellent way of love is permanent and will be our conclusion.**

*In verses nine through twelve, Paul reveals that our Christian journey is a process and that process is all about progression. The aforementioned gifts are a part of that process and progress. However, when we come to the end of our process and progress, there will only be one thing standing right in front of us and that is love. In other words, the process and progress with all the gifts God gave us to bring us to full maturity, will wind up maturing us into the maturing of love.*

*What Paul wants us to understand is that while here on earth we are still in the growing and maturing state. However, when we come face to face with the Lord in our eternal home, we will be complete in His love. So, therefore, we should, under the Holy Spirit's leadership, start focusing upon what we will ultimately be and do here, love for all eternity. Are you working on what you will know and do for all eternity?*

**III. Third, the most excellent way of love leads us to come face to face with perfection. (vs 12-13)**

*In verse twelve and the two verses before it, let us know that we have not attained to that perfect stage yet. However, verse twelve lets us know that for the Child of God that day will come. A day when we will all come face to face with Perfect Love, and that day will be when we come face to face with the One who is perfect love, our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.*

*J. Vernon McGee said, "in this chapter Paul is not describing an abstract term—love. He is writing a biography of Jesus Christ. Of Him it was written, "having loved His own which were in the world, He loved them unto the end." (John 13:1) The love of Jesus is an eternal love. My friend Jesus Christ will never cease loving you."*

*Therefore, if we are going to act like Jesus and be like Jesus, we must be under His leadership practicing the way of love which is the most excellent way.*

*Concl. I simply want to conclude the way Paul concludes the chapter. "And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love." that says it all. So, if you want to do the greatest then love is what you must do.*

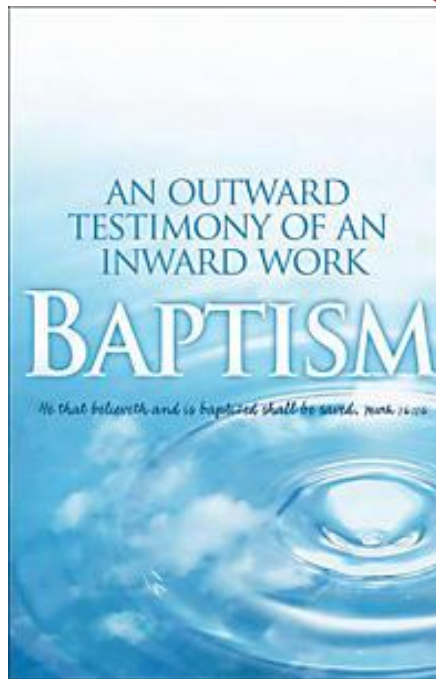
*Jesus Loves You  
Ralph Lee, Jr.*



Grandmother's Group  
Valentine's Party

Tuesday, February 13, 2018  
11:30 am / MPB

Come and join us!!!



*Last Sunday*  
January 28, 2018

**Mason Lošgar**

*Son of*  
David & Jennifer Meador

**Sophie Jane**  
**O'Connor**

*Daughter of*  
Amy O'Connor

## GSBC Prayer Pages February 4, 2018

*Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor  
Richard Waitt- Music Director  
Deacons  
Child Dev. Ministries*

**Church Needs**  
*Sunday School  
Small Groups  
SFCA-Donna Carter*

*Ministries  
Outreach Ministry  
Finance Committee  
Lottie Moon Christmas Offering*

**Leadership**  
*President Donald Trump  
United States of America*

**Unspoken**  
*Tim Cramer Family  
Kevin & Nicki Gwinn*

**Bereavement**  
*Family Of*

**Hospitals**  
*Bernard Malphrus-Candler  
Michael Daley-MUSC*

**Surgery / Recovery**  
*Duane Armstrong (1/11)  
Lloyd Freeman (1/11)  
Emma Mingledorff (2/1)  
Carol Davis (1/25)*

**Expecting / Births**  
*Sophia Sineath*

### Cancer / Treatments

*Maxie Mason (1/11)  
Ricky Tindal (1/11)  
Rusty Cooler (1/16)  
Allen Perry (1/25)  
Mitzi Cramer 92/1)*

**Nursing Centers**  
*Elaine Degler-RNC  
Wofford Malphrus-Effingham  
County Rehab. Center  
Doris Blackmon-Morningside  
Thelma Ashing-RNC  
Maureen Malphrus-RNC*

**Special Requests**  
*Lee Laycock—Home  
Jane Waitt-Air Conditioner Out*

### Called to Ministry

*Chris Carter & Family*

### Other Health Needs

*Joyce Sutler (1/11)  
Robert Sauls (1/11)  
Annette M. Price (1/11)  
Kitty Burke (1/11)  
Lenny Piner (1/25)  
Mary Daley (1/18)  
Mark Davis (1/22)  
Becky Jones (1/25)  
Eddie Watt (1/25)  
Wilbur Daley (1/25)*

*Vera Floyd (1/11)  
Alice Way (1/11)  
Irwin Malphrus (1/16)  
Joe Cooler (1/18)  
Annette Malphrus (1/18)  
Audrey Roberts (1/25)  
Sea Jay Bayne (2/1)  
Bobby Mohn (2/1)  
Madison Cooler (2/1)*

### Praise Report



## Pray For Our Military



*Bobby Emerson– South Korea-Army*

*Jared Blanton-Fort Benning*

*Matthew Mills-Va-US Marines*

*Jericho Malphrus-Air Force*

*If you have someone who needs listing, call either the church office a@726-3631 or E.L. Ambrose @ 726-5479.*

*Thank You*

### **Please Continue To Remember**

*Ricky Cleland  
Mike Hodge  
Shirley Malphrus  
Rose Boyles  
Mary Cope  
Judy Smith  
Jeffrey Stanley  
Joyce Sutler  
Susan L. Vaigneur*

*Dot Nettles  
Betty Nettles  
Tom Hinely  
Olivia Stanley  
Lois Bootle  
Grace Boyles  
Patricia Malphrus  
Scott Boyles*

*Gary Way  
Christy Gagel  
Vera Miles  
Mary Daley  
Leonard Steedly  
Barbara Mills  
Rodney Malphrus, Sr.  
Lanell Smith  
Brian Freeman*



*To develop an effective prayer life, you must overcome drowsiness. If you are kneeling why not try sitting or standing. Walk back and forth across the room or pace up and down other areas of the house. You must device ways to overcome the drawback of drowsiness while praying.*

*E.L. Ambrose*

### **Today's Prayer Team**

#### **Group I**

*Patricia Malphrus-Leader  
Truett Vaigneur  
Shirley Malphrus  
Vera Miles*

**Watchman Prayer Service**  
**Saturdays @ 8:00am**

#### **Prayer Note**

*For emergencies  
a prayer chain  
is available for needs.*

*You may access  
by calling the  
church @ 726-3631*

*Or*

*E.L. Ambrose @ 726-5479*

# Step Of Faith Christian Academy



Support DRAMA  
Friday, February 9th

DUKE'S BBQ Ridgeland, SC  
10190 S. Jacob Smart Blvd

Dinner at 5 PM  
Auction at 6:30 PM

All proceeds and donations will be utilized  
To pay for lighting and sound equipment.  
Your support is truly appreciated!!! Thank you to  
everyone who donated for the auction

Director of Drama Mrs. Rhonda Stones

Designed by Valri Purdy



**WMU Sunday**  
*Sunday, February 11th*  
*11:00 AM*  
*Greeters/Ushers: G.A.'s*  
*Women's Choir*  
*Please see Kim Malphrus for more info.*



Roberts Cooking Team

\$5.00 each or \$15.00 for a family of 4 or more

# This Weeks Birthdays



*February 4th*

*Taylor Floyd*

*February 6th*

*Jason Smoak*

*February 7th*

*Davey McGill*

*February 8th*

*Wilbur Daley*

*Mark Woods*

*February 9th*

*Katelyn Morgan*

*Bonnie Pope*

May your marriage be blessed with love,  
joy and companionship for all the years of your lives.

A very happy  
Wedding Anniversary  
to both of you



*February 8th*

*Leonard & Latrelle Steedly*



# Announcements

*The Quilting Club is meeting in the  
Old Parsonage  
Thursday, February 8th @  
10:00am*



*Watchman Prayer Group  
Saturday, February 10th @ 8:00 am*

## Last Call for Updates on:

*Telephones (Home & Cell)*

*Addresses (Physical & Mailing)*

*E-mail Addresses*

*Birthdates & Anniversary Dates*

*Membership or Baptismal Dates (if we don't have on file)*

*The Church Office is updating records and*

*Telephone & Address Book*



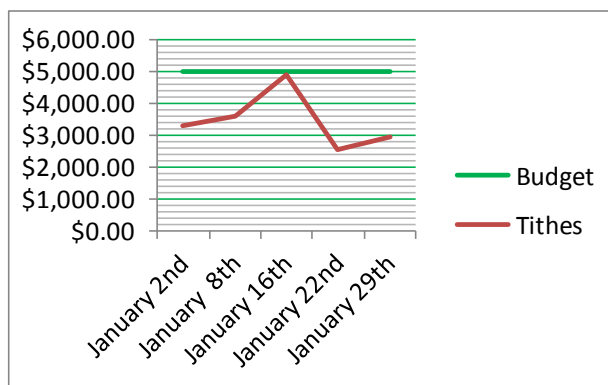
*Come join us for the  
Proclaimers Choir Practice  
every  
Wednesday Evening  
following  
Bible Study.*

## Church Staff

*Pastor: Rev. Ralph Lee, Jr.* .....jehu27@gmail.com  
*Music Director: Richard Waitt* .....waittfamily@embarqmail.com  
*Sunday School Director: Wallace Malphrus* .....Josie6@embarqmail.com  
*Pianist: Michelle Waitt* .....waittfamily@embarqmail.com  
*Administrative Assistant: Sybil Reynolds* .....greatswampbc@gmail.com  
*School Administrator: Donna Carter* .....dcarter@hargray.com  
*Custodian: Ann Malphrus* .....ramalphrus@hargray.com  
*Landscaper: Wallace Malphrus* .....Josie6@embarqmail.com  
*Finance Director: Timmy Sauls* .....greatswampbc@gmail.com

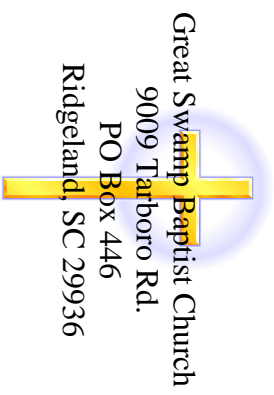
## Stewardship

Budget Offerings	Last Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
<i>Tithes &amp; Offerings</i>	\$2,961.00	\$4,973.36	-\$2,012.36
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Office Supplies</i>	\$45.00	*****	\$73.60
<i>Dot Lee Scholarship</i>	\$50.00	*****	\$420.00
<i>SMB</i>	\$78.00	*****	\$346.35
<i>WNS</i>	\$138.00	*****	\$153.42
<i>Kitchen Supplies</i>	\$100.00	*****	\$44.56



*A Gift was given to the Kitchen Fund in Memory of Mrs. Lula Way Malphrus Floyd by Gary & Alice Way & Our Children.*

*A Gift of \$50.00 was given to the Kitchen Fund in Memory of Mrs. Lula Way Malphrus Floyd by Jessie Mae Crapse and Sherry Lightsey.*



Great Swamp Baptist Church  
9009 Tarboro Rd.  
PO Box 446  
Ridgeland, SC 29936

*Sunday Morning Breakfast* ..... 8:30AM  
*Sunday School* ..... 9:45AM  
*Morning Worship* ..... 11:00AM  
*Evening Worship* ..... 6:00PM  
*Wednesday Night Supper* ..... 6:00PM  
*Wednesday Night Service* ..... 7:00PM  
*Saturday Watchman Prayer* ..... 8:00AM

Email: [greatswampbc@gmail.com](mailto:greatswampbc@gmail.com)  
Website: [greatswampbaptistchurch.com](http://greatswampbaptistchurch.com)  
Church Office: (843) 726-3631