

*Great
Swamp*
BAPTIST
CHURCH

April 29, 2018

Great Swamp Baptist Church

April 29, 2018

Sunday Morning Worship
11:00 AM

Prelude

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

Hymn # 425 “*He Keeps Me Singing*”

Invocation

Duane Armstrong

Selections of Praise & Worship

“Your Words”

“In Christ Alone”

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral & Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Offertory

Offertory Special

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction

Tonight
The Greg McDougal Family
Free Will Love Offering Concert
Finger Food Social

to follow

Please bring your favorite dish
of finger foods to share.

Concert begins
at 6:30pm.



Greeters

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

Nursery Workers

Today: Anita Blanton / Alyssa

Next Week: Carol Davis / Taylor Daley



Children's Church Helpers

Today: Olivia Stanley / Evelyn Bradley

Next Week: Angel Cole / Emma Mingledorff

DEACON OF THE WEEK :



Today: Duane Armstrong
843-726-6795

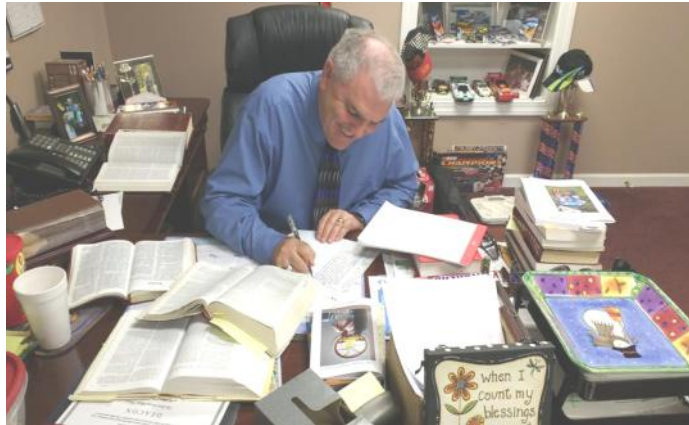
Next Week: Wilbur Daley
843-305-0110



Toll Committee

For the month of May
Alice Way
Pat Malphrus





From Pastor Ralph's Desk:

The Reason John Was The Revelator

Revelation 1:9-11

Intro: By the time the Apostle John wrote the Book of Revelation, all of the other Apostles of Christ had already been martyred for their service to the Lord Jesus Christ. However, John had been spared martyrdom because God was not through with him yet. He still had a job for John to do and until that job was done, John was sticking around no matter what the enemies of Christ did to him. God's servants are indestructible until God is through with them and not until then.

*Now, the question I want us to consider today is, why did God use John to write the Book of Revelation? Well, in our next couple of verses we will attempt to answer that question. As we answer the question we need to ask ourselves, could God use us in the manner that He used the Apostle John? I am entitling my message, *The Reasons John Was The Revelator*.*

I. First, the reason why John was the Revelator was because of his character.

So the question is, which aspect of his character am I referring to? Well, the answer is found in the way that John's name is mentioned three times in this first chapter and every time they are presented in the same manner and attitude. In our present verse he simply says, "John..." What I really want us to notice is what is missing from the introduction. That is missing is what John could have included in the introduction. He could have said, I, the Apostle John; or I, the last remaining apostle; or I,

John who walked with Jesus when He walked on the earth. If he had used any of those introductions, he would have been truthful. Instead, however, he chose simply to say, "I, John." This is basically how he referred to himself when he wrote the salutation for the letter he simply started with, "John" and that was it.

When John introduced himself by only saying, "I, John" he seems to be saying I can't believe that God is using a person like me to write the incredible book. So, the aspect of his character that he is revealing is the aspect of humiliation.

The Book of Revelation is written to reveal the ultimate and final exaltation of Jesus Christ over all; over all nations, kingdoms, powers and rulers regardless of their realms. Therefore, John is going out of his way to make sure that it is not about him in anyway, shape or form or fashion.

Now, the question is, can God use us too to promote the name of Jesus because we have humbled ourselves and given Him all the glory. Oh, may it be said of us that all of our bragging is about Jesus Christ our Lord.

II. Second, the reason John was the Revelator was because of his connections.

In these verses, we discover that John actually has a couple of connections that help him to be the Revelator. The two terms that he uses are "brother" and "companion." What he is saying is that he is one with all the other Believers in the same family and he is one with them in their service, suffering but ultimately their final salvation.

So, what John is doing is that he is saying that we are all in this thing together. The message of this book is not just for me but for us all as God's people. This book will bring salvation. It will bring strength. It will bring signals of warning. It will bring sentencing and it will exalt the Savior. So, in order for the benefits of this book to spread far and wide, everyone of God's people must work together as a team. We cannot for one minute allow our hearts to have a selfish spirit when it comes to the message of the Book of Revelation. We are brothers and companions together in this whole episode that God has planned out for us. Therefore, together let us work to spread the news of this book. Verse one tells us that God the Father gave the message of revelation first to His Son. Then Jesus the Son of God took the message and gave it to one of His angels. This angel gave the message to John. John then took the message and passed it on to the churches and the churches must keep passing it on until Jesus comes again.

III. Third, the reason John was the Revelator was because of his commitment.

John had been banished to a penal colony on a deserted island called Patmos. On this island, he was forced to do hard manual labor in the rock quarries while in his nineties. Now, the crime that he had committed that drove the Romans government to force a man of John's age to be banished to this horrible setting was the preaching and proclamation of "The Word of God and the Testimony of Jesus."

So, it is totally obvious that God was going to use John to write this book which because it would indeed become a part of the Bible and it would magnify the testimony of Jesus. Besides the portion of the Word of God that John had, which clearly was all of the Old Testament and possibly some of the New Testament, back up and supports the message of the Book of Revelation. Therefore, it was of the utmost importance to be totally committed to all of the Word of God because it all blends together. I like what the old time preacher Oliver B. Green said about John's commitment to the Word of God. He said, "John the beloved disciple was not schooled in the ability to trim the Word of God to fit the times in which he lived. The modernists and liberals of today are trained in our preacher-manufacturing plants-known as schools of theology. They are trained exactly how to preach a gospel that will suit the times and the people to whom they preach. But John preached the Word without apology, and because of his true Gospel, he was banished for his testimony and the Word of God which he preached."

So, let us ask ourselves, is our commitment to the Word of God such that we could be convicted because we take our stand on its' truth and its' primary message, the testimony of Jesus? We can't be effective for the Lord if we aren't committed to God's Word and message.

Another commitment that John had was not only a commitment to the Word of God but also a commitment to worship. It says in these verses that, "On the Lord's day I was in the Spirit and I heard a loud voice like a trumpet." (vs. 10)

Now by this time in the life of the church, Sunday had become designated as the Lord's day. The reason for that, of course, is because on the first day of the week (Sunday) Jesus resurrected from the grave. Therefore, the church indeed wanted to come together on that day for worship to keep reminding themselves and others that our Savior is a risen Savior.

Though John had been banished from the mainland, where all the churches existed, he still wanted to work in harmony with them by certainly setting Sunday aside as a time to pour his heart out in praise and adoration of our Lord. So, what this did was to help him be in tune with the Spirit of the Lord and our Savior. In other words, because his heart felt worship, it made him sensitive to the work of the Spirit and words of the Savior. Are we committed to serious, genuine and real worship?

IV. Fourth, the reason John was the Revelator was because of his love for the churches.

John was told here to write down what he saw and then to send that on to seven specific churches mentioned. Now John didn't rebuttal that or challenge that command given to him. No, he faithfully carried out his tasks and passed it on to these seven churches. Because he loved the churches. He, as we have already noted, declared that he was their brother and companion. Therefore, he was eager for them to get the book in their hands so they could work on the problems it addressed and they could be empowered by the final resolution it provided.

We must remember that Jesus loved the church and died for her. We must also remember that He will never leave or forsake her. We must also remember that He is coming back to rapture her out. So, if we want to be used of God to do his tasks, we must love the church for it is His church.

Concl. Will it one day be sad of us that God was able to use us to do His work and spread His message and exalt His Son and our Savior because like John we were humble in our character? We were deeply connected as a team, will all of God's people? We were committed to the Word of God; the testimony of Jesus and the worship of our Lord. Finally, also, because we love His church? May it be so!

Jesus Love You

Ralph Lee, Jr.

Sunday night ~ April 29
Great Swamp Baptist Church



The Greg McDougal Family

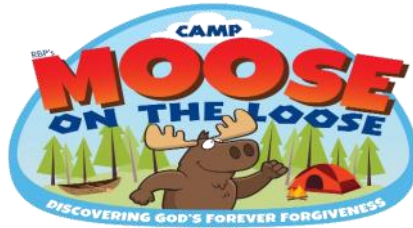
A FREE WILL, LOVE OFFERING CONCERT

Annual Youth Yard Sale

**Saturday, May 5th
8:00 am until 4:00 pm.
3611 Grays Hwy.**



WATCH OUT!!!



**THERE'S A
MOOSE ON
THE LOOSE...
WHERE???**



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

at Great Swamp Baptist Church

WHEN??? Sun., Jun. 3 thru Wed., Jun. 6, 2018
5:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

*Join us for supper beginning at 5:30 each night
followed by music, crafts, fun and fellowship!
(Ages 4 to 12)*

**PRE-REGISTER NOW
ON-LINE at
[greatswampbaptist-
church.com](http://greatswampbaptist-church.com) or in person on**



**Sun., Jun. 3, beginning at
5:00 p.m. at Great Swamp Baptist Church,
9009 Tarboro Rd.**

Any questions, please call (843) 726-3631

GSBC Prayer Pages April 29, 2018

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

Church Needs
*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry*

Leadership
*President Donald Trump
United States of America*

Unspoken
Tim Cramer Family

Bereavement
*Family Of
Donnie Smith*

Hospitals

Betty Nettles-BMH

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
Wofford Malphrus-Effingham
County Rehab. Center
Doris Blackmon-Morningside
Thelma Ashing-RNC
Maureen Malphrus-RNC
Becky Jones-Anderson*

Surgery / Recovery

*Lloyd Freeman (4/23)
Gay Littleton (3/29)
Fred Stanley (4/16)
Jessie Mae Crapse (4/12)*

Cancer / Treatments

*Mitzi Cramer (4/19)
Becky Broxton (3/29)
Allen Perry (4/19)
Jane Chapman (4/5)*

Other Health Needs

*Wallace Roberts (4/19)
Bob Malphrus (3/29)
Vera Floyd (4/19)
Bobby Mohn (4/19)
Dot Dean (4/5)
Trip Fogle (4/5)
Scottie Graham (4/5)
Omer Dubose (4/5)
Mary Cope (4/5)
Redden Tuten (4/5)
Bobby & Judy Smith (4/12)
Erma Cooler (4/12)
Wilbur Daley (4/12)
Kimberlyn Malphrus (4/12)
Elena Brannen (4/12)
Iris Noelle Duque (4/20)
Rosemary Carter (4/20)
Kirk Malphrus (4/26)
Lanell Smith (4/26)
Ellen Langford (4/26)*

Called to Ministry

Chris Carter & Family

Special Requests

Amy O'Connor-Selling Home

Expecting / Births

*Amanda Fletcher
Stevi Mingledorff & Baby Ella*

Pray For Our Military



Bobby Emerson– South Korea-Army
Jared Blanton-Fort Benning
Isaac Martin Malphrus Cape May, NJ / Coast Guard
Matthew Mills-Va-US Marines
Jericho Malphrus-Sp. Agent / Air Force / Oklahoma City. OK

Please Continue To Remember

Ricky Cleland
Mike Hodge
Shirley Malphrus
Rose Boyles
Mary Cope
Judy Smith
Jeffrey Stanley
Joyce Sutler

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



Revival is renewal for a Christian. A time for looking ahead. We might call it accountability time before God. Prayer will open us up and reveal the things we need to get right with our Lord.

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



Salisbury Steak

Mashed Potatoes

Green Beans / Salad

Bread

Dessert

Tea & Coffee

Roberts' Family Cooking Team

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



This Weeks Birthdays

May 1st *E.L. Ambrose*
Connie Benton
Forrest Bowen
May 4th *Dorthie Armstrong*
Hannah Bowen

*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*

May 3rd *Calvin & Pat Bryan*
May 5th *Mack & Bonnie Pope*

Senior Celebrator's Trip

It's that time of year again for getting prepared for our Annual Trip. A sign-up sheet and brochure is in the foyer. We are putting together our room list. Your \$25.00 deposit is due now. See Timmy Sauls for more info.

Announcements



Grandmother's Group
Tuesday, May 8th
Mother's Day Meeting
Bring pictures of your mothers
11:30am

**The Quilting Club is meeting in the
Old Parsonage**
Thursday, May 3rd @ 10:00am



Watchman Prayer Group
Saturday, May 5th @ 8:00 am

Online Giving

The Online giving on the church's website is up and running. If you have problems or questions, please contact Alex Sineath or the church office.



Calling all Knitters & Crocheters

*Anyone who would like to participate
in a craft project for
Operation Christmas Child,
please contact
Dorthie Armstrong @ 843-726-6795
For more info.
If you need yarn, we have plenty to share.*



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

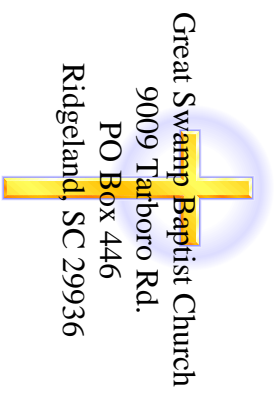
Budget Offerings	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
<i>Tithes & General Budget</i>	\$3,385.00	\$4,973.36	-\$1,288.36
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$300.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Benevolence</i>	\$50.00	*****	\$399.50
<i>Youth Camp</i>	\$46.00	*****	\$53.50
<i>VBS</i>	\$479.28	*****	\$1,430.36
<i>WNS</i>	\$141.00	*****	\$287.54
<i>George Pepper Scholarship</i>	\$2.00	*****	\$1,045.03
<i>SMB</i>	\$107.00	*****	\$174.00

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



Recommendation

The Nominating Committee recommends to the church for Wallace Malphrus to be the Sunday School Director for the 2018-2019 church year. It will be voted on at the May Business Meeting.



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
Website: greatswampbaptistchurch.com
Church Office: (843) 726-3631