

# Great Swamp Baptist Church

June 25, 2017

<u>Sunday Morning Worship</u>

11:00 AM

**Prelude** 

The Welcome

Announcements Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

**Invocation** Wilbur Daley

**Report From Look Up Lodge**Michelle Waitt

**Selections of Praise & Worship** 

"Your Words"

**We Pray for Special Needs** 

Pastoral & Offertory Prayer Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Offertory

Special Music Angell Usher

**Message** Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

**Invitation** 

**Benediction** 



# Today:

Mike Mingledorff Krey Lowther

## Next Week:

Cassandra Bradley Krey Lowther

# Nursery Workers









Anita Blanton

Today:

Alyssa

## Next Week:

Vandy Amason Natalie



## **Toll Committee**

For July
Latrelle Steedly and Dorthie Armstrong

# **DEACON OF THE WEEK:**



# Today:

*Wilbur Daley* 843-305-0110

*Next Week: Bjo Mills*843-271-2840



IF YOUR DEACONS

CAN MINISTER TO YOU IN ANY WAY, CALL THE CHURCH @ 726-3631



# From Pastor Ralph's Desk:

#### Joshua's Choice to Serve the Lord

(Joshua 24:14-15)

Intro: One of the most famous or well-known statement in the Bible was made by Joshua when he said to the nation of Israel, "but as for me and my household we will serve the Lord." (Joshua 24:15). There is hardly a more appropriate verse for Father's Day than this one. As a matter of fact it is appropriate for Fathers Day not only because the content of Joshua's statement but because Joshua actually fulfilled every word of the statement. Therefore, I feel like it is a great text to inspire us as fathers, men and leaders as well as all of us to choose to serve the Lord.

# I. First, I would like for us to notice that Joshua's choice to serve the Lord was a personal choice.

The first three words of this famous statement are, "As for me..." Before Joshua could challenge the nation, his own tribe or his own household to serve the Lord, he personally needed to make that commitment. To do otherwise would be hypocritical and in effective in getting others to do the same. So, let us notice a couple of reasons why Joshua chose personally to serve the Lord.

A. First, Joshua made this personal choice because of God's decision. Now, the decision that I am referring to was God's choice to choose and bless the nation of Israel and Joshua himself. Leading up to this famous statement of Joshua to the nation of Israel, he has just reminded them of all that God had done for them. Thus, Joshua is making the argument that in light of all that God had done, it should motivate himself and the nation to choose to serve the Lord. Even if it did not motivate anyone else, it certainly motivated Joshua himself to choose to serve the Lord.

Each one of us should personally choose to serve the Lord because of God's choice to choose us and serve us. He chose us from the foundation of the world and He sent His Son over 2,000 years ago to do what was necessary to make His choice of us effective and it became effective when He went to the cross to die for our sins and three days later arose from the dead. Oh, let us

choose to serve the Lord personally because of all He has done for us.

B. Second, Joshua personally chose to serve the Lord because of God's desire. This is an obvious point. God's desire for us to choose Him is obviously seen in all the things that He has done for jus. Joshua understood that this is what God wanted him to do and there fore because he it is what God desired for him then if he was going to please the Lord then he should follow God's desire which for him and for us is to choose to follow Him. Will you choose to serve the Lord because it is what God wants you to do.

<u>C. Third, Joshua made this personal choice because it was God's design.</u> Joshua is letting the nation of Israel understand that regardless of what they do, he himself will indeed choose to serve the Lord, and that is God's design that each one of us personally must choose to serve the Lord. The Lord teaches us that no one else can make that choice for us. As John 3:16 teaches us that, "God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son for us that <u>whosoever</u> believes in Him would not perish but have everlasting Life." The whosoever is each individual who makes that choice. So, we must personally choose if we are going to become a child of God and serve Him because that is God's design.

# II. Second, I would like us to notice that Joshua's choice to serve the Lord was a paternal choice.

As we noted in the first point that the first three words were, "as for me." However, he does not end the statement there. His next three word are, "and my household..." Joshua has determined that not only is he going to serve the Lord but that his household is going to do the same. He understood that God had given him the responsibility to encourage, direct and challenge his own family to serve the Lord. He was determined to do whatever it took to make sure that his household would serve the Lord.

Like Joshua, men, we must understand that the Lord has given us the responsibility to seek to direct our households to serve the Lord. The greatest way we can do that is to be sure that before our families, we are personally serving the Lord. We become the example they need to follow. It is a known fact that most children will grow up, more often than not, patterning their lives the way they were reared. I am my father's son. The things that he liked; the things that he enjoyed; the things that he did are all things that I like, I enjoy and do. I tribute much of my own service to the Lord to the example that my dad showed me. Dads, choose to lead your households to serve the Lord. It certainly will matter when we stand before the Lord.

#### III. Third, Joshua's choice to serve the Lord was a patriotic choice.

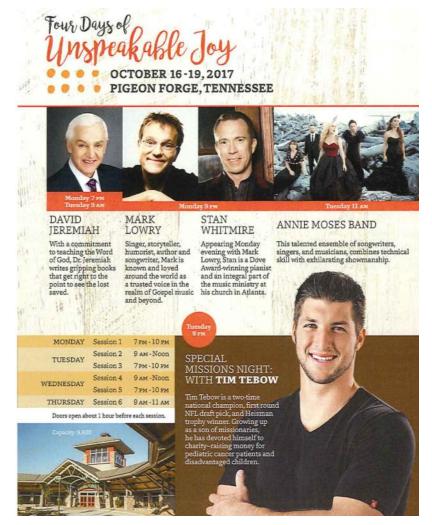
As we read the context of this famous statement, Joshua is addressing the nation of Israel. So, Joshua was making the choice to personally serve the Lord and to lead his family to do the same so that he could also influence his nation to serve the Lord. Well, the good news is that he managed to accomplish that at least during his life time, and the nation responded by attempting to follow the Lord as well because largely of Joshua's own commitment to serve the Lord.

Now, we know from the rest of the teaching of Scripture that it won't be until the Lord returns that this old world will get straightened out and acknowledges Jesus Christ as the only true King and Lord. Until that time, peoples and nations will often turn against the Lord. Psalm chapter two, lets us know that there will be a day in which basically nearly all, if not all, will turn against the Lord. However, at the end of that chapter, the kings and their nations are warned to act wisely and to choose to serve the Lord with reverent fear and rejoice with trembling. "Submit to God's royal Son, or He will become angry and you will be destroyed..." (Ps. 2:11-12).

Like Joshua, we all need to do all that we can to influence our nation to serve the Lord, and the best way we can do that is to attempt to win as many people in our nation to the Lord Jesus Christ as we can. Are you influencing and encouraging our nation to serve the Lord? Concl. In conclusion, Joshua understood that his choice to serve the Lord would not always be an easy thing. He, also, understood that getting his household to serve the Lord wasn't going to be an easy thing, and he most certainly understood that getting the nation would not be an easy thing.

However, he also understood that not to serve the Lord would be a far worse outcome than dealing with the hardships of serving the Lord. For he knew that ultimately God would bless his service and God did, and He will do the same for us. So, men stand and take the commitment to serve the Lord.

> Jesus Loves You Ralph Lee, Jr



# **Senior Adult News**

It is that time of year again. A sign-up sheet is in the Lobby for those who plan on attending. A non-refundable deposit of \$25.00 is due NOW. We need you to sign up as soon as possible so that we may put together a room list with balances. October 16-19.

We will be staying at the Willowbrook Lodge.

Early Bird Rates are:

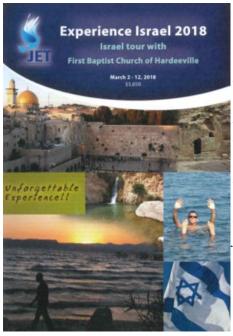
 4 per room
 \$199.00

 3 per room
 \$219.00

 2 per room
 \$259.00

 1 per room
 \$379.00

Bus Fee is a separate \$50.00



If you have never been to Israel or would like to visit again, here is your opportunity. First Baptist Church of Hardeeville along with Jet Tours will be going to Israel in the Spring of 2018. Payment schedules have been arranged. Literature for this trip is available in the Lobby. Call the first Baptist Church office @ 843-784-2239 for more info.









# Reminder

There will be **NO**Sunday Morning Breakfast
or
Wednesday Night Supper

June thru August.

Meals will resume the first week of September.



NO MAN IS CALLED TO LIVE AN ORDINARY LIFE FOR GOD

## AUGUST 18-19, 2017 | GREENVILLE, SC TD CONVENTION CENTER

Kurt Warner, Darryl Strawberry, Rick Burgess, Robby Gallaty, Brodie Croyle, Jeff Struecker, Tim Timmons, Brad Stine & More



**STARTING AT \$59** 

LIFEWAY.COM/MAINEVENT | 800.254.2022

LifeWay | Men

Event subject to change without notice. Sales tax applied to event cost, if applicable.



June 25th Tina Madison Dennis Holland June 26th Natalie Amason June 27th Olívia Stanley June 28th Mack Pope David Daring Kistler Malphrus June 30th Chelsea Cooler July 1st Dot Nettles Pat Bryan July 2nd Cathryn Daley







# After School Care

A safe place for your children to stay while you finish up your work day.

Now enrolling

2017-2018 School Verr

K3——6th Grade

Cell School Office @ 843-726-6100

for more info

and

to sign up.

## **GSBC Prayer Pages June 25, 2017**

#### **Church Needs**

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

Sunday School Small Groups SFCA-Donna Carter

Ministries Outreach Ministry Nominating Committee

#### Unspoken

Leadership Ryan Tuyls President Donald Trump Tim Cramer Family United States of America Margaret & Keith Floyd & Family

#### **Bereavement** Family Of Kathryn Graham

#### **Hospitals**

John Harold Stanley- St. Joseph

Robin Holmes (6/8) Duane Armstrong (6/8) Timmy Sauls (6) Ryder Smith (6/8)

### **Expecting / Births**

Victoria Keiffer

## Surgery / Recovery

#### **Cancer / Treatments**

Barry Jones (6/8) Mitzi Cramer (6/8) Susan L. Vaigneur (6/1) Becky Floyd (6/8) Wallace Roberts ()/ Diane Thames ()/ Maxie Mason (5/24) Susan Smith (5/21) Lawrence Smith (5/21)

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

**Nursing Centers** 

## **Called to Ministry**

Chris Carter & Family

#### **Other Health Needs**

Joseph Laycock (5/19) John D. Rogers (5/21) Mark Boyles, Sr. (5/21) Lloyd Freeman (6/1) Ronnie Malphrus (6/1) Justin Lane (6/1) Kinsley Mason (6/15) Stevi Mingledorff (6/15) Thane Anderson (6/15) Elliot Proctor (6/20)

Ron Davis (6/8) Vera Floyd (6/8) Abaigail Kidwell (5/22) Wilma Jean McGill (5/24) Bonnie Pope (5/24) Mike Mingledorff (5/24) Taylor Floyd (6/8) Betty & Janet Smith (6/8) Leigh Laycock (6/8) Butch Mears (6/15)

## **Pray For Our Military**



Bobby Emerson- Fort Hood-Army
Jared Blanton-Home
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 Lula Floyd Mary Cope Judy Smith Jeffrey Stanley Joyce Sutler Dot Nettles
Betty Nettles
Tom Hinely
Olivia Stanley
Lois Bootle
Lane Malphrus
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



In calling on God a prerequisite is to acknowledge His sovereignty and authority over our lives. Praying to God must be shaped in what God says about the things we are seeking help in.

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

# **Announcements**

The Quilting Club is meeting in the Old Parsonage

Thursday, June 29th @ 10:00am





Watchman Prayer Group Saturday, July 1st @ 8:00 am

# **Gifts**

A gift of \$50.00 was given to Operation Christmas Child in Memory of Megan Cleland Williamson by the Gleaners Sunday School Class.

## Great Swamp Baptist Church 9009 Tarboro Road, Ridgeland, SC Office - 726-3631 Fax – 726-3294

Email: greatswampbc@gmail.com Website: greatswampbaptistchurch.com

## **Church Staff**

Pastor: Rev. Ralph Lee, Jr	jehu27@gmail.com		
Music Director: Richard Waitt			
Sunday School Director: Wallace Malphrus			
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		
Calendar of Events			
Sunday Morning Breakfast (September thru May Only) Sunday School			

# Stewardship

Morning Worship11:00AMEvening Worship6:00PMWednesday Night Supper (September thru May Only)6:00PMWednesday Night Service7:00PMSaturday Watchman Prayer8:00AM

Budget Offerings	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
Tithes & Offerings	\$4,886.00	\$ 4,943.56	-\$57.56
Designated Funds	This Week	******	Acct. Balances
Senior Trip	\$25.00	*******	\$414.20
Gleaner's SS Class	\$54.00	*******	\$140.10
Mission Fund	\$25.00	******	\$508.22
Cemetery Fund	\$45.00	*******	-\$65.00

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