

The image features a silhouette of a church steeple with a cross on top, set against a dramatic sky with soft, golden light from a low sun, likely at sunrise or sunset. The clouds are layered, with some appearing darker and others catching the light. The entire scene is framed by a thin black border.

*Great
Swamp*

BAPTIST CHURCH

SEPTEMBER 30, 2018

Great Swamp Baptist Church

September 30, 2018

Sunday Morning Worship
11:00 AM

Prelude

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

Hymn # 426 "Victory In Jesus"

Invocation

Bjo Mills

Selections of Praise & Worship

"I Saw the Light"

"Are You Washed in the Blood"

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral & Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Offertory

Offertory Special

Sophia Sineath & Bjo Mills

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr

Invitation

Benediction



Greeters

Today: Dorthie Armstrong / Krey Lowther
Next Week: Latrelle Steedly / Krey Lowther

Nursery Workers

Today: Anita Blanton / Alyssa

Next Week: Carol Davis / Taylor Daley



Children's Church Helpers

Today: Kaylee Standard / Evelyn Bradley

Next Week: Emma Mingledorff / Kaylee Standard

DEACON OF THE WEEK :



Today: Bjo Mills

843-726-4344

Next Week: Duane Armstrong

843-726-6795



Toll Committee

For the month of October

Bernice Malphrus

Bonnie Pope





From Pastor Ralph's Desk:

A Trip to Heaven (Part I)

(Rev. 4:1-11)

Intro: In our lifetime we have heard many stories of folks who claim to have gone to Heaven in some form or fashion and then returned to tell the story. Usually most of these stories speak in somewhat of a personal touchy kind of feeling experience. They speak of bright lights, warm fuzzy kind of feeling, beautiful singing and sounds and etc...

Now on the other hand there are those who have given us more of what I would call purely fanciful, bizarre and down right silly. One man told the story that while he was strolled around Heaven, he saw some large buildings that contained human body parts such as arms, legs, eyes and more. He claims that these were body parts for humans on earth who needed them and if they had enough faith they would receive the part they needed. Another man claimed he was eight when he went to Heaven. He claimed that Jesus walked him down to the Crystal sea where they waded out and Jesus dunked him under the water and then he splashed Jesus back.

Now, let me remind you that we must never base our understanding of Heaven and what is taking place there based upon all of these so-called trips to Heaven mentioned above. Rather we must base our understanding of Heaven from the same source where we get all the other truths that we hold to and of course that is the precious Word of God.

There are in the New Testament two person who we know for sure were lifted in some form or fashion to Heaven, and then returned. The first one was the apostle Paul. Paul tells us that he was caught yep to the third Heaven. The third Heaven is the Heaven of heavens. It is the throne room of God. However, Paul tells us that he was not allowed to speak about what he heard or saw. (2 Cor. 12:1-4).

Now the second person who was taken to Heaven and returned was the apostle John. His experience was exactly the opposite experience that Paul had. The Lord told John to write down everything that he saw. I know it must have been very difficult for the apostle Paul to have made a trip to Heaven but then have to keep quiet about it. However, the apostle John must do everything within his power to make sure that as many people as possible hear about his trip to Heaven. It was this trip to Heaven that gave us the rest of the Book of Revelation. From chapters four all the way to the last chapter. So, let us travel on this journey or trip that John takes to Heaven so we can actually discover what is going on in glory.

I. First I want us to consider the timing of John's trip to Heaven. (vs. 1).

In the New International version of the Bible which I use, the first two words of verse one are, "After this". As well they are the last two words of the verse. Some translations put these words this way, "After these things." So the question is after what things are we talking about?

Now, what John is telling us is that after certain events, he was taken to Heaven and that once he got there, Jesus told him that he was going to show him what was to take place on earth following the things that have already taken place. What we are actually seeing take place here is the chronology of the Book of Revelation that the Lord established in chapter one.

Let us look at that time line for the Book of Revelation. "Write therefore what you have seen, what is now, and what will take place later." so when we come to chapter four and verse one where John takes his trip to Heaven after certain things have already taken place where are those events found in the time frame of the Book? Well, the first part of the chronological order of the book found in chapter one verse nineteen is "what you have seen." so, by the time this verse comes along, what had the apostle John already seen? He had already seen the vision of Jesus Christ in all of His magnificent glory and power and grace. This was the first part of the time line.

Next, before John's trip to Heaven he sees the second part of the time line take place. First the time line says, "what you have seen." the second part however says, "What is now." well, since he had already seen the visions of Christ the "What is now" is what follows the vision of Christ, and what follows the visions of Christ is the messages to the churches. Now the message to the seven churches represents the entire church age until the Lord removes the church. These messages are to the churches-plural. Though seven are mentioned, they are represented of churches in every age.

However, after chapter four, the church is not mentioned again until chapter nineteen and the last chapter of the Book. So, John's trip to Heaven takes place after the first two orders of the Book's time line have taken place. Thus this trip to Heaven for John is where we will receive the final part of the time line, "What will take place later." Well that is exactly what our Lord said to him, "...and I will show you what must take place after this." Jesus is saying to Him, I'm about to show you what is going to take place on earth following the period of the church age. You are going to see and share with the churches what I will do once they are removed from the earth and that is what will take place later.

Now, the question is what time frame are you going to be a part of? You see somewhere between chapters three and four the church is removed from the scene and what comes next will be that period which John will tell us about in the coming chapters and after chapter five, what we discover is that it will be the most horrific time the earth has ever known. I would advise you today, make sure you respond to our blessed Lord in the first part of the time frame found in chapter one and then you will be a part of the second time period and will avoid part three all together.

II. Second, let us consider the hospitality of John's trip to Heaven. (vs. 1). Those of us living in the south have always heard, experienced and shared what we call southern hospitality. In the mountains where we grew up the doors were never locked, no one was turned down and food was provided for whosoever. Well in spite of how great southern hospitality has been expressed, experienced and known by all is still in no way compared to what I am simply calling Heaven's hospitality, or heavenly hospitality.

Now, there are a couple of statements made in this verse that reveals that heavenly hospitality. First, John observed that “there before me was a door standing open in Heaven.” when John got to Heaven he did not have to get in any kind of line and I now that ruined a lot of jokes, including some of mine. Nor did he have to ring a doorbell or knock or wait for someone to open up. The door was already open anticipating his entrance. How many times have we ever come to an open entry door but was not sure whether or not to step through because we don’t know for sure whether they had left it open or was it a mistake. So we hesitate to step through.

Well my friends, John to have to hesitate to step on in because not only was the door open but he heard a familiar voice say, “come on up.” So, I am going to ruin a few more jokes. At the door waiting was not Saint Peter, but rather the King of kings and Lord of lords. It was the voice of Jesus that said come on up. He met John at the door.

Now, let me point out that Heaven’s door is always open but only for certain ones. Who are the ones that it is open for? The apostle John is the example to that and what was it about him for which he was allowed to go through those open door and be met by the Savior and Lord? Well, it is all because he was a Believer in Jesus Christ and for no other reason. In Rev. 3:20, Jesus said, “...I stand at the door and knocked. If anyone hears my voice and opens the door, I will come in and eat with him and he with me.” So, when a person opens the door of their heart through repentance and faith then Jesus will enter their heart and dine with them. However, they in turn will get to dine with Jesus and that will be for all eternity both here and there.

So there is only one way through that open door to heavenly hospitality and that way in through Jesus Christ only. In the Book of John’s Gospel, he tells us that us that Jesus said, “I am the door if anyone enters by Me, he will be saved, and will go in and out and find pasture.” (John 10:9). Also, of course, Jesus said, “I am the way, the truth and the life. No one come to the Father except through me.”

Concl. My prayer today is that you get to experience that heavenly hospitality and you will if you surrender your lives to Jesus.

*Jesus Love You
Ralph Lee, Jr.*

Senior Celebrator’s Trip

Your Balances are due NOW.

Harvest Fest

Saturday

October 27, 2018

4 to 7 pm

Sign up sheets in Foyer

Celebrating  **173** years of God's Faithfulness

and the journey will continue until God returns...

H+MECOMING

Sunday, October 14th

Guest Speaker:

Rev. Bobby Thompson

Dinner on the Grounds

Following Morning Worship Services

*Church will provide the
BBQ Pork, Hash & Drinks*

Rice, side dishes and desserts are needed.

MOVIE NIGHT

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th



Finger foods @ 5:30pm
Movie @ 6pm

GREAT SWAMP BAPTIST CHURCH
9009 Tarboro Rd. / (843)726-3631



*The church family is invited to
the marriage of*

Courtney Donae Thames

to

Micheal Lee Humbert

*Saturday, November 3, 2018
at 3:00pm*

*Hundred Oaks
7630 Calf Pen Bay Road
Pineland, SC*

*Reception to follow
RSVP to 843-321-0806*



Save the Date

SFCA

Blood Drive

November 22nd





October 2nd

Timmy Sauls

Announcements



Grandmother's Group
Tuesday, October 2nd
11:30am

**The Quilting Club is meeting in the
Old Parsonage**
Thursday, October 4th @ 10:00am



Watchman Prayer Group
Saturday, October 6th @ 8:00 am

Gopher Hill Parade
Saturday, October 6th



Gifts

*A gift of \$200.00 was given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of
Maxwell Malphrus by Mamie Malphrus Minton.*

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD



October Collection for OCC

Items	Amt. Needed
<i>Brushes</i>	<i>150</i>
<i>Combs</i>	<i>150</i>
<i>Pencil Sharpeners</i>	<i>206</i>
<i>Scissors</i>	<i>152</i>
<i>Crayons (16 ct)</i>	<i>44</i>
<i>Crayons (24 ct)</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Colored Pencils</i>	<i>35</i>
<i>Toothbrushes</i>	<i>232</i>
<i>Jump Ropes</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Paddle Balls</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Yo yo 's</i>	<i>50</i>
<i>Pocket Tissues</i>	<i>200</i>

GSBC Prayer Pages September 30, 2018

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

Church Needs
*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Dev. Ministries*

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry*

Leadership
*President Donald Trump
United States of America*

Unspoken
Tim Cramer Family

Bereavement
*Family of
Jamie Into
Brenda Bekick*

Hospitals
Pam Stanley-MUSC

Special Requests
*Trip Fogle-Guidance
Enriqueta Torres-Spiritual Guidance
David Peacock-Spiritual Guidance
Robert O'Dell-Job*

Surgery / Recovery
*Judy Smith (9/20)
Joyce Pope (9/27)
Carol Davis (8/30)
Patrick Malphrus (8/31)
Vanessa Smoak (10/30)*

Cancer / Treatments
*Mitzi Cramer (9/27)
Jane Chapman (9/27)
Becky Broxton (9/27)
Jeanie Raven (9/27)
Andy Hughes (9/10)
Donna Garrett (9/20)
Ken Nettles-(9/20)*

Nursing Centers
*Elaine Degler-RNC
Doris Blackmon-Morningside
Thelma Ashing-RNC
Maureen Malphrus-RNC
Becky Jones-Anderson
Dot Tindal-NHC*

Other Health Needs

Called to Ministry
Chris Carter & Family

*Rodney Malphrus, Sr. (8/30)
Talmadge Malphrus (9/20)
Mike Mingledorff (8/30)
Chelsea Cooler (9/6)
Eva Calhoun (9/13)
Thelma Reynolds (9/13)*

*Barbara Solley (9/6)
Madison Cooler (9/6)
Chad (9/10)
Jerri Nettles (9/20)
Grace Boyles (9/20)
Rodney Malphrus, Jr. (9/27)*

Expecting / Births
Amanda Fletcher / Daughter



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

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

Michael Sottile-Depolyed

Owen White-Fort Benning

Please Continue To Remember

*Ricky Cleland
Mike Hodge
Shirley Malphrus
Rose Boyles
Mary Cope
Judy Smith
Jeffrey Stanley
Joyce Sutler
Redden Tuten
Vera Floyd*

*Dot Nettles
Tom Hinely
Olivia Stanley
Lois Bootle
Grace Boyles
Patricia Malphrus
Scott Boyles
Dot Dean
Ellen Langford*

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



Praying makes one highly conscious of the leadership of the Holy Spirit. Many times one is prompted to go and sometimes He prompts one not to go. Either requires discipline on ones part to respond appropriately and a sensitivity to the Holy Spirit's wishes. In like manner the Holy Spirit directs our praying as to what and how one should pray.

Today's Prayer Team

Group III

*Timmy Sauls-Leader
Gail Malphrus*

**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
752 Great Swamp Rd.
Ridgeland, SC 29936*



Salisbury Steak
Potatoes / Gravy
Beans / Rolls
Dessert
Tea & Coffee
Roberts Cooking Team

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

Church Staff

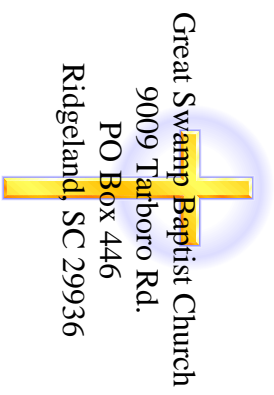
Pastor: Rev. Ralph Lee, Jr *jehu27@gmail.com*
Music Director: Richard Waitt *waittfamily@embarqmail.com*
Sunday School Director: Wallace Malphrus *Josie6@embarqmail.com*
Pianist: Michelle Waitt *waittfamily@embarqmail.com*
Administrative Assistant: Sybil Reynolds *greatswampbc@gmail.com*
School Administrator: 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>	\$4,003.06	\$4,973.36	-\$ 970.30
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$0.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Seniors Fund</i>	\$558.00	*****	-\$781.54
<i>Youth (Camp)</i>	\$80.00	*****	\$80.00
<i>Janie Chapman Offering</i>	\$135.00	*****	\$325.75
<i>Cemetery</i>	\$200.00	*****	\$335.00
<i>SMB</i>	\$100.00	*****	\$322.00
<i>WNS</i>	\$156.00	*****	\$394.11

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.



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