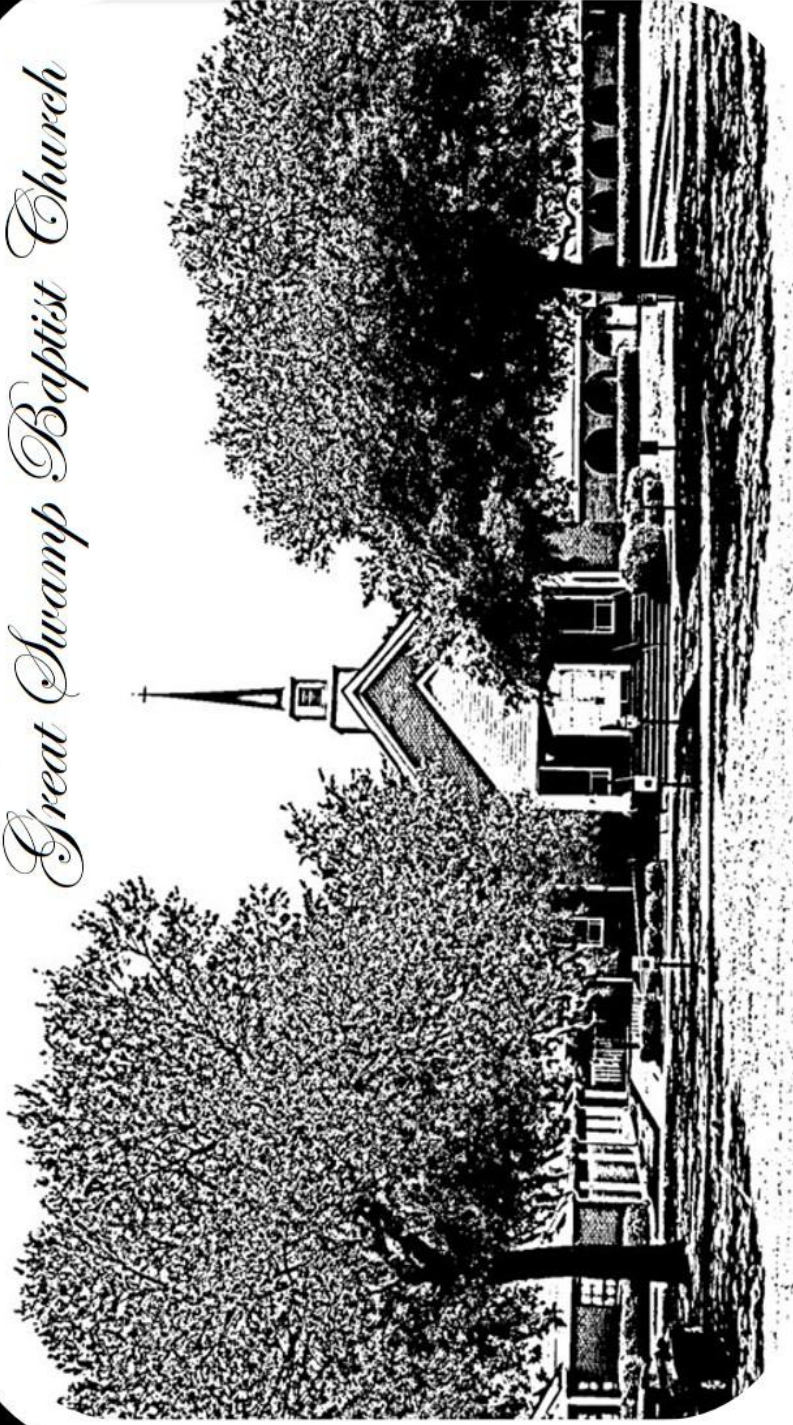


Great Swamp Baptist Church



DECEMBER 9, 2018

Great Swamp Baptist Church

December 9, 2018

Sunday Morning Worship
11:00 AM

Prelude

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

"Jesus, You're Beautiful"

The Christmas Choir

Invocation

Bjo Mills

Selections of Praise & Worship

Hymn # 88 "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"
"Adore"

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastoral & Offertory Prayer

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Offertory

Offertory Special

Sadie O'Connor

"Noel, Noel"

Special Music

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction

TONIGHT @ 6PM!

The Journey of Praise Christmas Concert



Greeters

Today: Olivia Stanley / Krey Lowther
Next Week: Betty Robertson / 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: Kaylee Standard / Emma Mingledorff

DEACON OF THE WEEK :



Today: Bjo Mills

843-726-4344

Next Week: Duane Armstrong

843-726-6795



Toll Committee

For the month of December

Gail Malphrus

Anita Blanton



From Pastor Ralph's Desk:

John's Trip to Heaven (Part VI)

(Rev. 4:1-11)

Intro: three Sunday's ago, we examined what John saw around the throne of Heaven. He saw a rainbow that encircled the throne of Heaven and this rainbow was not the typical color of a typical rainbow. This rainbow gave the appearance of the color of an emerald or green.

So the question is what did this rainbow indicate? First, since it was a completely encircled rainbow it represents the fact that God's reign from His Heavenly throne is an eternal reign. His kingdom is our eternal one. Like a circle it is without beginning or ending. Second, it also represents the fact that God will keep His covenants and promises that He has made with the nation of Israel and as well with all of His chosen and redeemed people. Now, the reason we say this is because on earth God gave us the rainbow as a sign that He would never destroy the entire earth by a global flood. The rainbow is a symbol of God's covenant keeping power. Third, the color of the rainbow indicated joyfulness. For green is the first color that appears when winter is drawing to a close thus creating warmth and joy in our hearts as spring begins coming to life. It also is the most relaxing color to look at. Thus the color reminds us that God will for all eternity bring both joy and rest to our lives. His reign will be an eternal joyful and restful reign.

Today I want us to take a look at not what is around the throne but who is around the throne. John sees twenty four persons around the throne and we want to identify who these persons are.

III. B. Second, let us notice the identities of who is around the throne. (vs. 4). *The direct answer from the apostle John is that those who surround the throne are twenty four elders. These twenty four elders have thrones that surround the throne of Heaven itself. Now the question is just who are these twenty four elders? One scholar I read said that there are at least thirteen different views as to who these elders are. However, the two*

most prominent views are that they either represent a group of angelic beings or they represent the church in Heaven.

1. So first we will identify who they are. We will identify who they are by pretty much ruling out who they are not. Who they most likely are not are angelic beings and here are the reasons why. First, because nowhere in the Word of God do angels sit on thrones. Second, nowhere in Scripture are angels referred to as elders and besides angels don't age like humans. The third reason that angels are most likely not the elders is because the angels don't sit on thrones. Rather they are ministering spirits to God's chosen people.

So if they are not angels, then they must be humans. Here are the reasons I believe they are humans. First because in the Bible, men are often referred to as elders. Second, because the number of the (24) is found in the Bible to represent the twenty four different divisions of the Levitical priests that served in the temple. There also were twenty four different divisions of singers in the temple. So, what this tells us is that twenty four is a number that actually represents a large number of persons. The third reason is because of the white garments the elders are wearing. In the Word of God, white garments are more often referred to as the clothing of the Believers more so than of angels. As a matter of fact, three places in the Book of Revelation reveals this very truth. (Rev. 3:5; 3:18; 19:8). Also, white is symbolic of the righteousness of Christ that He imparted to Believers. (2 Cor. 5:21). Finally, nowhere in Scriptures are angels wearing crowns but again we find plenty of Scripture to backup the fact that Believers will wear crowns. (Rev. 2:10; 1 Cor. 9:25; 2Tim. 4:8; James 1:12; 1 Peter 5:4).

Therefore, with all that was just stated, we come to the conclusion that John MacArthur came to when he said, "These twenty four elders are representative of 'The raptured, glorified, coronated church.'" John's vision seems to show that the church will be raptured out before the events of the rest of the Book and the twenty four elders represent us around the throne of God.

2. Second, let us identify where they are? Well that is an easy answer. They are around the throne of Heaven. In other words, praise God they are seated around the Blessed Holy Godhead, the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Jesus said to His apostles, those famous words of John 14:1-6. He told them that He was

going away so that He could prepare a place for them and that He would come back and take us to that place where we could spend eternity with Him. Oh blessed be the name of our blessed Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Will you be one of those who will go back with Him when He comes to get His people? I pray so. If no, cry out to Him today to save you.

3. Last of all, let us identify what they are doing? They are truly worshipping our blessed Lord by singing around the throne to our Lord the songs of creation and redemption. Oh, let us learn that worship is all about Him. When we sing and give praise, may it all be directed to Him for it will be in Heaven.

Jesus Love You

Ralph Lee, Jr.

Gifts

*A gift of \$60.00 was given to the Kitchen Supply Fund
in Memory of Mary Daley
by Dennis & Alicia Holland.*



Table Decorating
Saturday, December 15th
Sign Up Sheet on
Bulletin Board





Christmas Celebrations

@ GREAT SWAMP

DEC 9 Journeymen of Praise

6 pm

DEC 16 Family Christmas Gathering

11 am

DEC 23 Candlelight Service

11 am

[Marriage Conference]

Look Up Lodge

lookuplodge.com



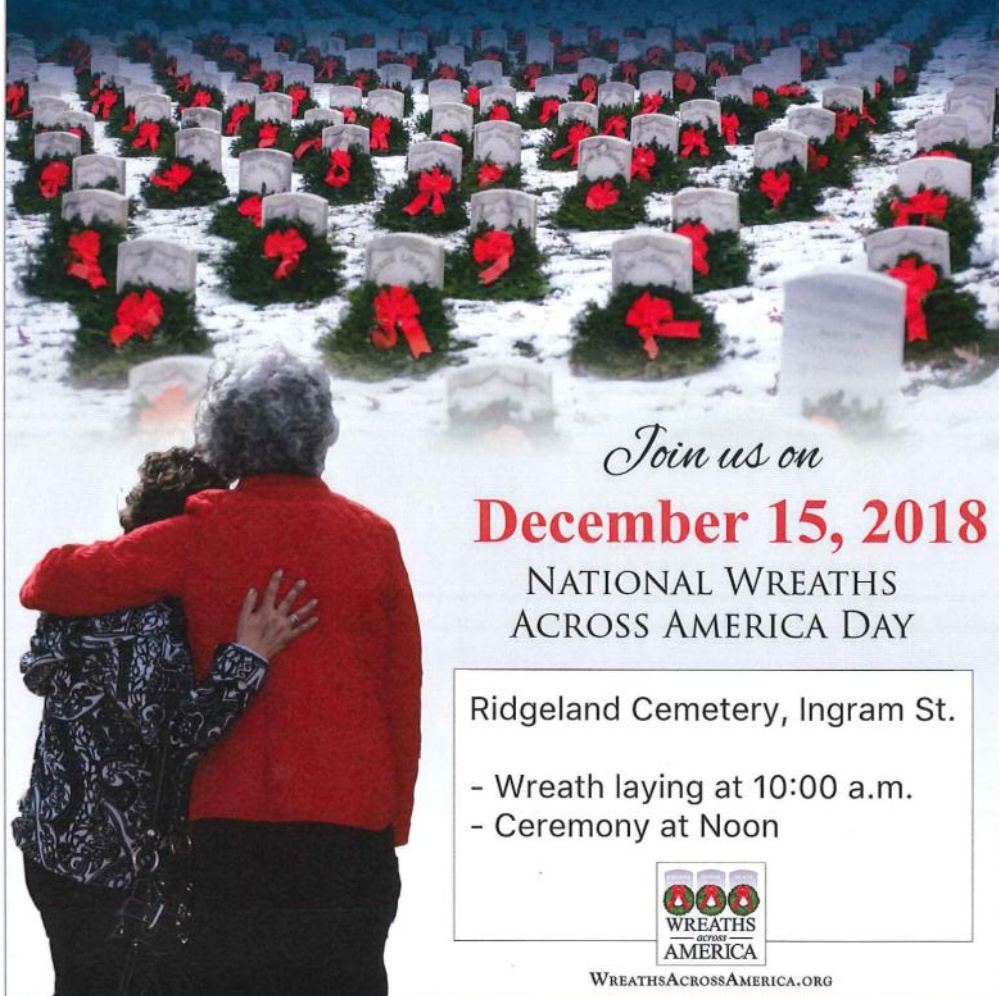
Two houses sit beside each other in a neighborhood. They look very differently from one another. But when the foundations were laid, they looked almost identical. This is the basic idea behind our marriage conference. Sometimes your marriage is your marriage - the way you communicate, the way you show affection, the way you handle conflict all may be very different from your neighbor. However the foundation of every great marriage is very much the same. It must be built on at least a few foundational principles if it's going to survive, let alone rise above the storms of life. These principles are: *understanding real love, understanding the differing values of sex between men and women, and understanding the basic principles of lasting change.* These are some of the principles we will be focusing on during our marriage weekend.

Details:

Dates:	March 15 th - 17 th	Total Cost:	\$139.00 per couple
Days:	Friday - Sunday	Deposit:	\$69.50 [50% of total cost]
Arrival Time:	Friday between 4pm - 6pm [Dinner at 6:30pm]	Balance Due:	NON-REFUNDABLE Upon Arrival- CASH ONLY
Departure Time:	Sunday around 1pm	Includes:	Food, Lodging & Conference
Reservations:	(864) 836-6392 Attn: Kathy	Address:	100 Look Up Lodge Rd. Travelers Rest, SC 29690
Reservation Name:	Great Swamp	Taylor Daley:	(843) 505-7066 or taylorcbdaley@gmail.com
Forms Due:	Upon Arrival		

**I am more than happy to make all of the arrangements for you, please contact me if interested. **

Join Us in Our Mission to REMEMBER ♦ HONOR ♦ TEACH



Join us on

December 15, 2018

NATIONAL WREATHS
ACROSS AMERICA DAY

Ridgeland Cemetery, Ingram St.

- Wreath laying at 10:00 a.m.
- Ceremony at Noon



WREATHSACROSSAMERICA.ORG

#BeTheirWitness

GSBC Prayer Pages December 9, 2018

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

Leadership

*President Donald Trump
United States of America*

Hospitals

*Pam Stanley (MUSC)
Margaret Floyd (Hampton)*

Surgery / Recovery

*Judy Smith (10/18)
Shirley Malphrus (11/1)
Pat Bryan (11/13)
Mike Mingledorff (12/7)*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
Doris Blackmon-Morningside
Thelma Ashing-RNC
Maureen Malphrus-RNC
Becky Jones-Anderson
Leonard Steedly-NHC*

Special Requests

*Robert O'Dell-Job
Pam Stanley's Donor*

Church Needs

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

Unspoken

*Tim Cramer Family
Mandy Drew
Olivia & Juan Garcia*

Spiritual Guidance

*Trip Fogle
Enriqueta Torres
David Peacock
John Woodly
Mary Lou Torres
Emerald Trujillo*

Cancer / Treatments

*Mitzi Cramer (11/1)
Jane Chapman (11/1)
Becky Broxton (11/1)
Jeanie Raven (11/1)
Jimmy Mixson (11/1)
Pam Stanley (11/1)
Heidi Crosby (11/26)
Bill Martin (11/30)*

Called to Ministry

Chris Carter & Family

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of
Leonard Steedly*

Other Health Needs

*E.L. Ambrose (11/1)
Betty Miles (11/29)
Royce Malphrus (11/29)
Catherine Daley (11/8)
Monique Gagel (11/15)
Gary Way (11/28)
Bobby Mohn (11/28)
Ann Blocker (11/30)
Lyman Malphrus (12/4)
Pinkie Rushing (12/4)
Nannie/Elaine Williams (12/4)*

Expecting / Births

*Amanda Bowen
Victoria Keiffer*

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
Alice Way*

*Gary Way
Christy Gagel
Vera Miles
Leonard Steedly
Barbara Mills(Knee)
Rodney Malphrus, Sr.
Lanell Smith
Brian Freeman
Dot Tindal
Pam Stanley*



Pray For Our Military

*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 - Deployed
Owen White-Fort Bragg*



Intercessory Prayer Today's Prayer Team

*Betty Robertson
Vera Miles*

For Prayer Needs

*You may access by calling the church at
843-726-3631*

Intercessory Prayer

Due to E.L.'s health, as of the end of November, he will no longer be leading the Watchman's prayer group. At the present time, Mack and Timmy are planning to continue the program and we will be making changes in December. We will continue the Sunday morning prayer at 11:00am and will need volunteers to come aboard as prayer warriors as we pray for our pastor, deacons, leaders, etc. for our church family. A sign up sheet will be on the information board. Please be in prayer about this ministry. For more information contact Mack or Timmy.



Chicken 'n Fixins'

Dessert

Tea & Coffee

Dorthie Armstrong

Cooking Team

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



This Weeks Birthdays



December 9th *Frankie Malphrus*

December 12th *Nadine Smoak*

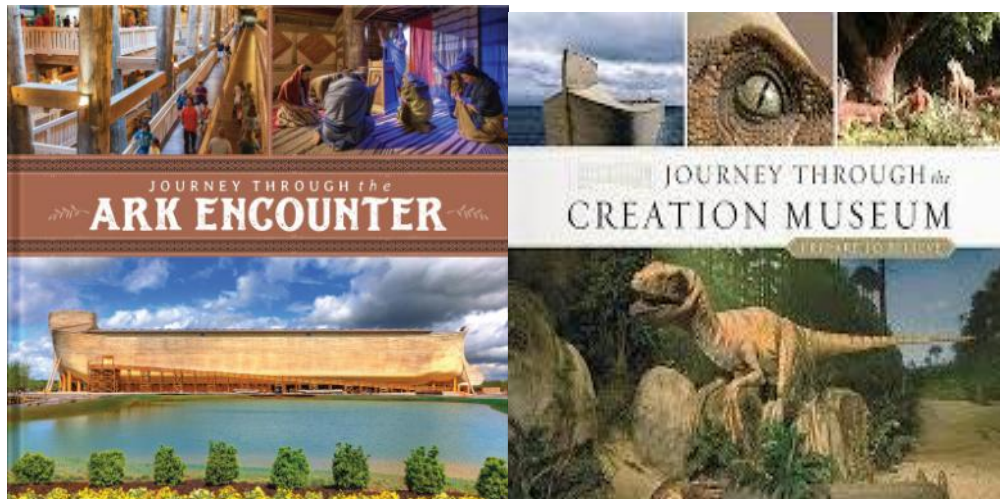
December 13th *Corinna Malphrus*

Greg Fryman

December 14th *Devin Mock*

December 15th *Henry Bradley*

Amanda Bowen



***The Ark Encounter and Creation Museum
information on Bulletin Board***

Announcements

Deacon's Meeting
Monday, December 10th @



Business Conference
Wednesday, December 12th



The Quilting Club will resume meetings in January.

Pam Stanley
MUSC
ART 7—HOPE UNIT
Courtenay Dr., Charleston SC
Phone: 1-843-876-4617

Church Staff

Pastor: **Rev. Ralph Lee, Jr.**.....jehu27@gmail.com
 Music Director: **Richard Waitt**.....waittfamily83@gmail.com
 Sunday School Director: **Wallace Malphrus**.....Josie6@embarqmail.com
 Pianist: **Michelle Waitt**..... waittfamily83@gmail.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>	\$3,832.67	\$4,973.36	-\$1,116.72
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$23.97		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Poinsettias</i>	\$48.00	*****	\$112.00
<i>SFCA Office Supply</i>	\$258.30	*****	\$20.23
<i>Lottie Moon Offering</i>	\$8.00	*****	\$8.00
<i>George Pepper Scholarship</i>	\$100.00	*****	\$663.03
<i>SMB</i>	\$63.00	*****	\$258.00
<i>WNS (Youth)</i>	\$110.00	*****	\$294.43
<i>SFCA Security</i>	\$123.89	*****	\$0.00
<i>SFCA Trash Pick Up</i>	\$125.00	*****	\$125.00
<i>SFCA Electric</i>	\$1,938.68	*****	\$0.00
<i>SFCA Janitorial Supplies</i>	\$500.00	*****	\$253.83
<i>Kitchen Supplies</i>	\$60.00	*****	\$280.00

Celebrating  **175 years of God's Faithfulness**

and the journey will continue until God returns...

Great Swamp Baptist Church
9009 Taboro 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