

JANUARY 5th @ 10:45am



The Lighthouse Singers
IN CONCERT

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Great Swamp Baptist Church

January 20, 2020

Sunday Morning Worship

11:00 AM

Prelude *The Lighthouse Singers*

The Welcome
Announcements *Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

Call to Worship
Hymn # 334 "Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine"

Invocation *Wilbur Daley*

Selections of Praise and Worship

The Lighthouse Singers
We Pray for Special Needs *Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

Pastoral & Offertory Prayer
Offertory
Offertory Special *The Lighthouse Singers*

Message *Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

Invitation

Benediction

Regular Services Tonight @ 6:00pm.



Greeters

Today: Kim Malphrus / Krey Lowther
Next Week: Terri King / Krey Lowther

Nursery Workers

Today: Diane Thames / Chesney
Next Week: Vanessa Smoak / Jennifer Meador



Children's Church Helpers

Today: Kaylee Standard / Evelyn Bradley
Next Week: Kaylee Standard / Emma Mingledorff

DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today: Wilbur Daley
843-305-0110

Next Week: Mack Pope
843-540-6636



Toll Committee

For the month of January
Alice Way
Pat Bryan

*From
The Pastor Ralph's Desk:*



Let's Move Forward

(Nehemiah 2:11-20)

Intro: The first time I ever actually drove out on a race track with other cars on the track, it didn't go so well. One night while carrying out my chaplaincy work at I170 Speedway, one of the drivers asked me if I would like to take his race car out during the practice laps. Of course, he didn't have to ask me a second time. Without hesitation, I jumped right in and headed for the track. Now, I'll have to admit that I was a bit nervous because I had never actually been on a track with a group of cars around me. So, I decided to start at the back of the group so I wouldn't hold up the guys who were used to being out there. Also, so I could begin to take some time to feel things out.

Well, I began to get in a groove and began feeling comfortable until the pack began to catch up to me. At that point I quit focusing upon what was out in front of me and instead focused upon what was going on behind me. I could see the cars coming quickly and I couldn't decide which way to get out of their way. So I began to go all over the place. When that happened, I got black flagged. That means that they made me get off of the track because of my erratic driving.

Well, one of my favorite race car drivers taught me an important lesson about racing. His advice was don't drive out your rear view mirror. Always drive with your eyes focused upon what is out in front and drive like no one is going to get ahead of you. Well, I listened to his advice and was never black flagged again. As a matter of fact, it helped me to win four times and finish in the top five many times.

Now, I am sharing this with you because it fits with what I want to encourage us to do as we head into 2020. I don't want us to focus upon the rear view mirror. Rather, I want us to look at the front windshield and drive like no one will get by us. I want our motto to be Let's move forward.

Now, Nehemiah was a man who managed to move the remnant of Jewish people back in Jerusalem forward in a very big way. What he accomplished with the remnant that had come back out of captivity, was indeed a mighty event. I want us to examine how he moved this group of people forward. May the Lord use his example to also move us forward.

I. First, Nehemiah moved the people forward by observing and acknowledging the problem. (vs. 11-17).

The very first thing Nehemiah does once he arrives in Jerusalem after resting from his long journey there was to spend an entire night riding around the city observing and assessing the problems of the city. What he saw and observed broke his heart. The city wall was broken down completely to the ground. The city gates were burned completely up. In other words, it was in complete ruins.

Next, he went to the Jewish remnant that was already living there in the city and shared with them of his observation of the city, particularly the walls and gates of the town. He was helping them to see that they must acknowledge the situation before they could move forward and do something about it.

God wants us to wake up and see the mess the world is in. Like the broken down walls and burned gates, there are broken down lives all around us. There are lives that are nearly all burned up with all manner of things. Also, there are many needs in our won lives and church. We must remove our blinds, observe the problems and acknowledge them in order to move forward. For if we ignore them, we won't move forward because we won't do anything to fix the problems. Also, if we don't know about it, the problems won't be fixed either. So, let us observe and discover what walls are broken down around us. Then let us acknowledge what they are so we can begin putting those broken walls back together.

II. Second, Nehemiah moved the people forward by obtaining and organizing the people. (vs. 17).

Once Nehemiah observed and acknowledged the problems to the people in Jerusalem, he also immediately began strategizing the solution to the problem. That strategy began with three words, "Come Let us..." When he began revealing the solution by using the pronoun "us" he was stating that the first strategy for getting the problem of the broken down walls fixed was to use all the people of the Jewish remnant that lived in the land of Israel to get the walls rebuilt.

So, Nehemiah didn't say that the way the wall is going to get fixed is that I am going to fix it myself. He also didn't say that me and a few others will get the work done. Nor did he say that most of us will rebuild the wall. No, instead he said, "Let us" meaning that all of us that are here must work together to fix the problem that is before us.

Now this doesn't mean that everyone did the exact same thing but it does mean that everyone contributed some part in accomplishing the goal of rebuilding the walls. Some gathered the materials; some put the materials up; some provided the necessary resources to get the materials; and some in the case of rebuilding the walls provided security. Also, some provided meals for the workers while others were praying for them.

It is no different today when God reveals a need or problem that He wants us to fix or repair. He intends on the whole of God's family to work together in order to get the repairs done. The New Testament is filled with many verses that reveal this absolute truth that it is the totality of God's people working together that will get the broken walls and lives all put back together. As we learn from the Apostle Paul in I Corinthians 12, the church is one body but it is made up of many different parts. So, we each have been gifted by God in some manner and function to help the body do the work God has called it to do.

Now this means some of us will give resources to help get this work done. Some of us will pray diligently for the work to get done. Some of us will do the actual work in the field and so on. So if we are going to move forward in 2020 like never before, then we must realize that it is a "Let us" proposition. What will you be contributing this year so that we can get the problems fixed?

III. Third, Nehemiah moved the people by obeying and obtaining the potentate. (vs. 12, 18).

Now the sad fact of the matter is that many of God's people are not going to move forward with the work that needs to be done simply by realizing that the problem is there and that all of God's people should be working to get the problems fixed. No, sometimes it takes a greater motivation to get the people involved in getting the work done.

Well, Nehemiah presented the one motivation that should move all the people to carry out the work together even if they didn't really want to. What was that motivation that caused the people to indeed work together even if they initially didn't plan on it? It was the fact that the work they were to do was what God wanted them to do. They were to do it out of obedience to God's wishes over their own desires.

In verse twelve, Nehemiah reveals that what he came to do was what God put on his heart to do. Then in verse eighteen, he let the people know that the gracious hand of God was with him.

So, Nehemiah is basically saying that we don't really have any option but to do the work of rebuilding the wall because it is what God wants us to do. Any other course of action would be disobeying the Lord.

However, Nehemiah also reminds us that in obeying the Lord we not only are doing what He calls upon us to do but we will also have the privilege of being able to depend upon our Lord to provide all that is necessary for us to get the work He called us to do. So, by obeying the Lord we also are obtaining Him. We must remember that no one wants broken walls and lives fixed more than Jesus Christ does. Let us get to work repairing these broken walls and lives because we know that it is not just a matter of obeying the Lord but more importantly it is doing what He loves us to do most and that is fixing and repairing lives. If we are not doing that then, no matter what, we are not moving forward.

IV. Fourth, Nehemiah moved the people forward by omitting the problem makers. (vs. 19-20).

Just as soon as Nehemiah had convinced the people to join together to fix and rebuild the walls, they encountered immediate opposition. Before the first rock was laid or the first gate rebuilt, the opposition was already doing whatever was necessary to prevent the work from ever getting off the ground. The opposition came from the local political leaders of the area who had been in the position for quite some time.

However, Nehemiah pressed on with the work because he knew that it was of God and that, therefore, it would get done. He directly told the opposition leaders that, "The God of Heaven will give us success."

So, let us know that we don't live in a perfect world and when it comes to God's work, we don't just face opposition from the usual kind of things that arrive, but we will on a greater level face opposition from the devil himself who opposes anything that God wants us to do. However, let us press on because our God will give us success. Amen and Praise the Lord.

Concl. So, when we don't observe and acknowledge the problems; and fail to obtain and organize the people; and refuse to obey and obtain the Potentate; and refuse to omit the problem makers, then all we are doing is driving out of our rear view mirror, never advancing forward. May the Lord turn our eyes out front and move us forward like no one is going to get by us.

Jesus Loves You

Ralph Lee, Jr.



*“For even the
Son of Man
did not come to be
served, but to serve,
and to give his life
as a ransom for many.”*

Mark 10:45

Wednesday Nights @ 7:00 pm

*Do you know a young girl
in the 1st through the 6th grades?
We want to invite them to our
Servant's Heart Clubhouse
to learn about the
blessing of serving others.*

Any Questions call
Diane Thames @ 843-321-0806
or
Carol Davis @ 226-0258

Women's Bible Study

Thursday , January 9th @ 6:00 pm

In the MPB

Come out and Join us.

Contact Carol Davis for more info



Announcements

Tuesday, January 7th
Prayer Breakfast
9:00 am



Grandmother's Group
Tuesday, January 7th
11:30 am

Business Conference
Wednesday, January 8th



Quilt Club
Thursday, January 9th

ABIDE CONTEMPORARY
SERVICE

JANUARY
8

7PM

**SAVE
THE
DATE**



Chicken 'n Fixins

Desserts

Tea & Coffee

Dorthie Armstrong Cooking Team
\$5.00 each or \$15.00 for a family of
4 or more

GSBC Prayer Pages January 5, 2020

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

Leadership

*President Donald Trump
United States of America*

Hospitals

*Oscar Rivera-Bft. Memorial
Keith Floyd-MUSC*

Surgery / Recovery

*Pam Stanley (9/16)
Mack Pope (9/19)
Eva Migliore (9/18)
Pat Bryan (9/27)
Deidre White (11/12)
Judy Roberts (11/22)
Max Cole (12/15)*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
Doris Blackmon-Morningside
Becky Jones-Anderson
Royce Malphrus-RNC
Dot Tindal-NHC*

Special Requests

David Meador-Job

Church Needs

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

Unspoken

*Olivia & Juan Garcia
Jessica Cleland
David Meador
Steve Crosby*

Spiritual Guidance

Cancer / Treatments

*Mitzi Cramer (1/28)
Lynn Daugherty (8/30)
Sidney (8/15)
Douglas Denegel (9/16)
Donald Fludd (9/30)*

Called to Ministry

Chris Carter & Family

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry*

Bereavement

*Family of
Gen Malphrus*

Other Health Needs

*Dan Peeples (6/26)
Charles Maney (7/2)
Lee Martin (7/3)
Ann Blocker (7/25)
Ruby Keiffer (9/19)
Eddie Kinard (9/19)
Danny Breland (9/19)
Pinkie Rushing (10/10)
Wallace Malphrus (11/1)
Cookie Daley (11/19)
Margaret Davis (11/19)
Helen Malphrus (11/19)
James Harris (12/10)
Jane Gorman (12/19)
Paul Malphrus, Jr. (12/19)*

Expecting / Births

Chelsie Lake & Baby Girl

Please Continue To Remember

*Shirley Malphrus
Rose Boyles
Mary Cope
Judy Smith
Jeffrey Stanley
Redden Tuten
Vera Floyd
Bobby Mohn*

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

*Gary Way
Rodney Malphrus, Sr.
Lanell Smith
Dot Tindal
Pam Stanley
Philipp Hanna*



Pray For Our Military

Jared Blanton-Fort Stewart

Isaac Martin Malphrus

Cape May, NJ / Coast Guard

Matthew Mills-CA-US Marines

Jericho Malphrus-Sp. Agent / Air Force /

Oklahoma City. OK

Michael Sottile - Deployed

Tristan Blanton-San Diego/ SWCC



Intercessory Prayer Today's Prayer Team

Timmy Sauls

Carol Davis

For Prayer Needs

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



<i>December 30th</i>	<i>Tori Malphrus</i>
	<i>Darlene Malphrus</i>
<i>December 31st</i>	<i>Terri King</i>
<i>January 1st</i>	<i>Alyssa Schrader</i>
<i>January 2nd</i>	<i>Dora Reynolds</i>
<i>January 3rd</i>	<i>Teresa Garbade</i>
<i>January 6th</i>	<i>Duane Armstrong</i>
<i>January 7th</i>	<i>Barbara Malphrus</i>
<i>January 10th</i>	<i>Sadie O'Connor</i>
	<i>Colleen Standard</i>

January 8th
Tony & Colleen Standard



A Gift of 200.00 was given to the Cemetery Fund in Memory of Annette Malphrus by Mamie M. Minton.

Notice

*Due to several computer crashes caused from viruses, **NO** one is allowed to check their personal e-mail accounts (especially g-mail) or Facebook accounts on the office computers anymore. Our computer technician says that is where the viruses are stemming from. We have had to temporarily change our e-mail address to greatswampbaptist@Hargray.com until a permanent fix can be made.*


The Office Staff

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>	\$ 5393.72	\$4,982.79	+\$ 753.38
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$ 342.45		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Lottie Moon Offering</i>	\$ 136.00	*****	\$ 2,017.25
<i>Youth (Pizza for Lock In)</i>	\$ 20.00	*****	\$ 20.00
<i>Senior Trip 2020</i>	\$ 75.00	*****	\$ 1,273.00
<i>Youth Annex (Mailbox)</i>	\$ 78.00	*****	\$ 3,115.07
<i>Gleaners SS Class</i>	\$ 39.00	*****	\$ 147.33
<i>SMB</i>	\$ 103.00	*****	\$ 329.48
<i>George Pepper Scholarship</i>	\$ 100.00	*****	\$ 1,009.83
<i>Wreath Across America</i>	\$ 100.00	*****	\$ 275.00



Nursing Home Ministry

Come out and join us on
Tuesday, January 14th
 for this ministry.
Hope to see you there!



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

Email: greatswampbc@gmail.com
Website: greatswampbaptistchurch.com
Church Office: (843) 726-3631