

*Step of Faith Christian Academy
Teacher & Staff Dedication Service*



*Great Swamp Baptist Church
August 16, 2020*

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30am

SFCA Teacher & Staff Dedication Service

Prelude *Wayne Cooler*

The Welcome
Announcements *Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr*

Call To Worship
Hymn # 4 "To God Be the Glory"

Invocation *Michael Daley*
Teacher Recognitions


Selections of Praise and Worship
"Way Maker"

We Pray for Special Needs *Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*
Pastoral Prayer
Offertory Special *Mended*

Message *Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

Invitation

Benediction

 Weekly Offering	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$ 3,424.00	\$ 4,982.47	-\$ 1,213.47
Online Offerings	\$ 345.00		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Church Repairs (AC)</i>	\$ 3,020.00	*****	\$ 12,100.60
<i>Youth Camp (Yard Sale)</i>	\$ 201.10	*****	\$ 286.39
<i>Office</i>	\$ 305.90	*****	\$ 1,311.65
<i>Missions</i>	\$ 50.00	*****	\$ 359.57
<i>Cemetery</i>	\$ 20.00	*****	\$ 100.00
<i>Youth Annex (Yard Sale)</i>	\$ 300.00	*****	\$ 300.00



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

Today: Michael Daley: 843-505-0998

Next Week: Wilbur Daley: 843-305-0110

Wednesday Night Services @ 7pm

ABIDE—MPB Bldg.

Pastor's Payer Service—Old Social Hall

Youth Group—Youth Annex

NO WNS NO Children's Groups

Other Groups & Committees will resume at later dates.

*From
The Pastor Ralph's Desk:*



Will I Recover

(2 Kings 8:7-15)

Intro: My message today comes from our Wednesday night Bible study. We are examining right now the life of Elisha. The event in Elisha's life that we presently are looking at is where Elisha goes to the city of Damascus in the neighboring country. While there an official of the King in the country where he's at comes to visit him. King Ben-Hadad sent his official Hazael to ask the prophet Elisha if he were going to recover from the illness that he was dealing with.

Clearly in the midst of our pandemic, many people are either asking this same question or at least wondering what if? So, let's consider this question, will I recover from this illness.

I. First, let's consider who asked the question will I recover. (vs. 7-8)

Well, we don't have to speculate because these verses clearly tell us that it was King Ben-Hadad that asked the question. So, of course, that means that it was the king who was sick with some kind of illness.

Now, what I want us to understand from this fact is that no person, regardless of their stature in life or position in life, is exempt from illness and death. A king can get ill and die just as much as the lowest of his servants can.

I have buried people from practically every age group there is. As a matter of fact, it is really not practically, its definitely. I've also buried people who were the poorest of them and those who were quite well off. I've buried people who worked at convenience stores and I've buried people who ran their own successful businesses. So, you can't say I'm too good for this illness or that illness is to get me. You can't say I'm too powerful for this illness or that illness to infect me. Again, illnesses and death are no respecters' of persons.

So, obviously I don't need to really say it but I will and that is that the most important thing in life is to be prepared for death by crying out to Jesus for eternal life that He alone offers.

II. Second, let us consider when the question was asked will I recover.

In other words, how long back was it that Ben-Hadad got sick? Well, it was around 3,000 years ago.

Now, the point I want to make out of this is that illnesses are not something that have just suddenly appeared among mankind. It is important that we hear this message because we are acting as though the coronavirus is the first illness that mankind has ever faced. But, of course, we know that it is not the case. From the time sin entered the world so did sickness and death.

Sadly, so many other terrible diseases and illnesses have been overlooked because our focus is only on the coronavirus. People were getting sick and dying before the coronavirus came along. Since March, our church has buried 6 people and not a one of them died because of the coronavirus. Now, I'm not trying to belittle the effects of the virus. It has been dangerous and deadly.

However, the majority of people who contract the virus will have little to no symptoms. We know that 99.9% of people who are 65 years old and younger will recover from the virus. We, also, know that even most senior adults will recover. It is the ones who are 80 years old and older who have many other physical issues that it's the most dangerous and deadly for. The average life expectancy in America is 78 years. The average age for someone dying with the covid virus is 81 years old. The death rate in our nation is less than half of one percent. Now the reason I bring this up is because I want us to not fear this virus like we do and understand that illnesses and death have always been around and will be until Jesus returns and permanently put it away. So, again, the important issue is to be ready for when the Lord lets us take our last breath. For it is coming to us all and only He knows when that will be. So, are you ready? Have you come to understand your lostness before our Holy God and repented of your sins trusting the work at the cross Jesus did to save us? That is the only way to be ready.

III. Third, let us consider who did he ask will I recover?

Well, of course, these verses plainly tell us that he sent his official Hazeal to ask the prophet Elisha would he recover. Now, King Ben-Hadad was not an Israelite. He was the king of a nation that was considered an enemy of the nation of Israel where Elisha was from.

Why didn't King Hadad ask his own religious leaders if he would recover or not? Well, I believe that answer is quite simple. Elisha had a reputation that preceded him everywhere that he went. He was known for the prophecies that he made that had been fulfilled. He was known for being a disciple of Elijah. Finally, he was known for the great miracles that he had performed that could have only come about by the power of Almighty God.

So, the king knew that Elisha was a man of God. As a matter of fact, he called Elisha the man of God. He knew that Elisha walked with God. Therefore, he knew that Elisha would get an answer from God. He knew that Elisha would have a Word from God.

Listen, people are asking the question, will I recover? Now, when they ask this question, it is not always about recovering from the coronavirus. There are many things happening in their lives that they feel the need to recover from. So, the question is, would they choose us as a person to seek an answer for their recovery? Do they believe that our walk with God is such that they could be confident that we could give them an answer concerning their recovery?

Well, the good news is that we do have the answer. It is the same one that Elisha had. His answer was a Word from God. You and I have this answer as well. We have the entire Word of God and it clearly gives the answers on how people can recover. We clearly know that it shows that Jesus is the answer. Are you helping people to know that through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior, we can recover. If not, is the life time clearly in in the life to come when we go to be with Him. Have you trusted Him yet?

IV. Fourth, let us consider what he did to influence the question , will I recover? *Well, the king informed his official to take a gift or gifts to Elisha when he asked him the question, would he recover from his illness. These verses tell us that Hazael took 40 camels full of gifts and material things. Maybe the king believed that these gifts would somehow influence the answer to turn out positive for him.*

However, all the material gifts in the world couldn't influence the answer that he wanted. Riches, gold, silver and all the money or even human achievements and efforts will not prevent us from having illnesses and eventually dying. David tells us, "No man can redeem the life of another or give to God a ransom for him. The ransom for a life is costly, no payment is ever enough." (Pr. 49:6-8). No only the Blood of Jesus is payment enough to set us free from our sins and make us a Child of God. (I Pet. 1:18-21). So, let us not try to humanly influence but rather let us trust in Christ alone to influence our ultimate positive outcome for the question, will I recover?

Concl. Now, Elisha told Hazael to go back and tell the king that he will recover. But then he said to Hazael, but God had shown him that in fact he would die. So, was Elisha being dishonest? No, he knew that from the illness he would have recovered. However, he wouldn't recover from the murder of his life by his official Hazael.

So, my closing point is this, if an illness doesn't take your life, something or someone else will. So, always be ready by receiving Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior then you will definitely recover either here or for sure there in glory.

*Jesus Loves You
Ralph Lee, Jr.*

DEACON ELECTION NOTICE

On Sunday, August 23, 2020, during the Morning Service, we will select one deacon to serve until 2023. If you wish to have your name removed from the following list or your name was omitted in error, please contact the church office at 726-3631.

Deacon List of Nominees

*Eddie Amason
Mike Davis
Lloyd Freeman
Freddie Malphrus
Paul Malphrus
Ronnie Malphrus
Bjo Mills
Mike Mingledorff
Robert O'Dell
Tony Standard
Fredrick Stanley
Gentry Thames
Mel Toland*

Rotation Schedule

2020-2021
Bjo Mills

Memorials

*A gift of \$ 50.00 was given to the General Fund
In Memory of Rodney Malphrus, Sr.
By Loren W. Webb*

*A gift of \$ 50.00 was given to the General Fund
In Memory of Lanell Smith
By the Audrey Altman Family.*

*A gift of \$ 100.00 was given to the General Fund
In Memory of Mary Cope
By Anna Nadine Mullis.*

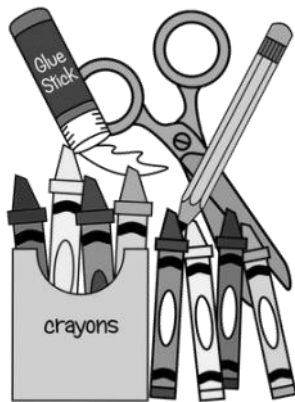
*A gift of \$ 3,000.00 was given to the AC Fund
In Honor of Byron & Margaret Vaigneur.*

Operation Christmas Child Kick Off

Christmas in July

*Donation of school supplies or monetary donations accepted.
Any questions, see Dorthie Armstrong.*

July Collections:



Pencils

Erasers

Pens

Crayons

Colored pencils

Scissors

Glue sticks

Notebook paper

Pencil sharpeners





<i>Monday</i>	<i>17th</i>	<i>Thomas Cooler</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>18th</i>	<i>Iola Daring</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Brittnie Goethe</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Ralph Lee</i>
		<i>Charles Malphrus</i>
		<i>Mike Mingledorff</i>



<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>19th</i>	<i>Richard & Michelle Waïtt</i>
------------------	-------------	-------------------------------------

GSBC Prayer Page

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

Leadership

*President Donald Trump
United States of America*

Hospitals

Surgery / Recovery

*Jennifer Resh
Skylar Saygen
Dustin Roberts
Ann Blocker
Chip Sutler
Michelle Rooks
Debra Daley
Tripp Fogle*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
Doris Blackmon-Morningside
Wilma Jean McGill-RNC
Bobby Mohn-Indigo Pines HHI
Byron & Margaret Vaigneur-Assist.*

Church Needs

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

Unspoken

*Jessica Cleland
David Meador
Steve Crosby
Heather Betz*

Cancer / Treatments

*Mitzi Cramer
Lynn Daugherty
Sidney
Douglas Denegel
Becky Goretzka
Gail Sims
Gene Cooler, Jr.
Gloria Davis
Gary Malphrus*

Called to Ministry

Chris Carter & Family

Ministries

*Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry
Abide Wednesday Services*

Bereavement

Family of

Other Health Needs

*Danny Breland
Cookie Daley
James Harris
Jane Gorman
Jane Waitt
Robert Sauls
Pat Bryan
Jerry Cooler
Bobby Tootle
Charlotte Tootle
Randy Smoak
Brenda Farve
Randy Smoak
Andrew Miller
Lloyd Way
Jason Smoak*

Expecting / Births

Please Continue To Remember

*Shirley Malphrus
Rose Boyles
Judy Smith
Jeffrey Stanley
Redden Tuten
Vera Floyd*

*Dot Nettles
Tom Hinely
Grace Boyles
Patricia Malphrus
Scott Boyles
Ann Blocker*

*Gary Way
Frankie Malphrus
Betty Robertson
Charles Maney
Kenneth & Doby Cleland*

Pray For Our Military

*Sgt. Jared Blanton-Deployed
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*

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
Landscape: **Wallace Malphrus**.....Josie6@embarqmail.com
Finance Director: **Timmy Sauls**.....greatswampbc@gmail.com

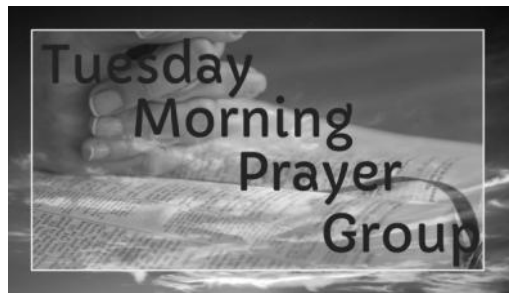
Nursery Workers

Today: **Vanessa Smoak**

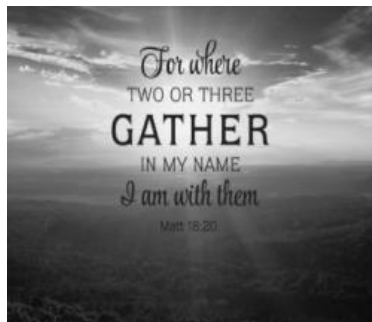


Children's Church

Today: **Olivia Stanley**



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am





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