



Love
One Another

*A new command I give you:
Love one another. As I have loved you,
so you must love one another.*

John 13:34-35

GREAT SWAMP BAPTIST CHURCH

FEBRUARY 21, 2021

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Prelude

The Welcome

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Call to Worship

Hymn # 521 "On Jordan's Stormy Banks"

Invocation

Mack Pope

Selections of Praise and Worship

*"I'm In The Lord's Army" Children's Church
"Forever Reign"*

We Pray for Special Needs

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory Special

Mended

"He Reigns"

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

Invitation

Benediction

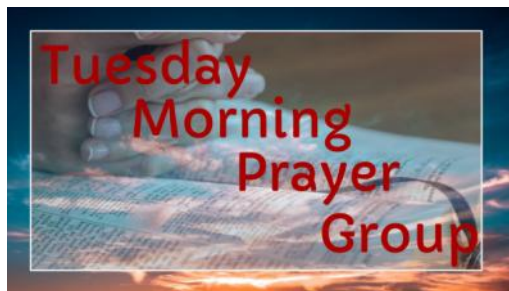
Nursery Workers

Today: Vanessa Smoak
Helpers Needed; See Vanessa



Children's Church

Today: Olivia Stanley / Gideon Mobley/ Lily Smith



Tuesday Mornings @ 9:00am



DEACON OF THE WEEK :

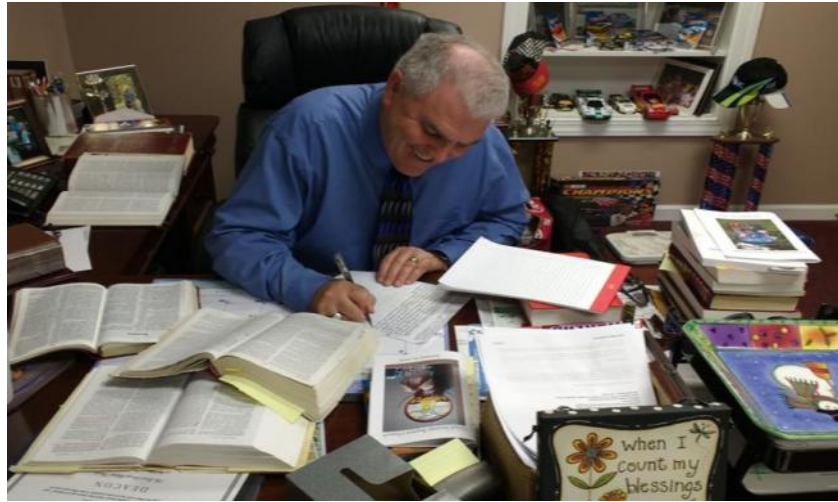
Today:

Mack Pope: 843-540-6636

Next Week:

Keith Gamo: 843-986-8745





The New Commandment of Love

(John 13:31-35)

Intro: So much of my attitude for 2020 could be described primarily as bitterness. Bitter, over the way we have dealt with the whole Covid-19 experience. Bitter, overall the political unrest and ongoing national protests. Bitter, over our moral decay which has expanded rapidly. All these things and more have made me bitter, angry, upset, sad and depressed.

However, Jesus has called us to rise above our emotional feelings and all the mess of the day and instead focus upon Jesus Christ's new commandment of love. For when we do this we can make a greater impact upon the world for Christ than we can by simply being bitter, angry, mad or sad and depressed. I believe right now that the world is hungry to say love in action is a world where it is not taking place and the church or God's people is where they should see it taking place. So, let us examine the new covenant of love.

I. First, let us notice who gave us the new commandment of love. (vs. 31).

Well, that's an easy one to answer. Jesus is the one doing the speaking in these verses, so Jesus is the One who gives us this new commandment of love. Therefore, this means that this new commandment of love was given to us by the very Son of God Himself, and because He is the Son of God in the flesh this is the One who gave us the new commandment of love.

Now, what this means therefore is that there is great power and authority behind this new commandment. It wasn't your family or your friends or even your politicians who gave this new command to you to obey and follow but rather the Lord God Almighty. Because it was He who gave it to us we are not only obligated to obey it but we also have the power and authority to do so.

Also, the fact that Jesus gave it to us not only puts power and authority behind it just because of who He is, He has fleshed out the very thing He's calling on us to do. So, if someone had given this commandment to us who didn't actually carry it out themselves, then most likely we wouldn't take it seriously. However, because Jesus practiced what He preached, we therefore know that we can take this commandment seriously.

II. Second, let us notice when He gave the new commandment of love. (vs. 31-33).

He gave the new commandment of love just before He was crucified, resurrected and ascended. So, He was saying to them in my physical presence as you see me now, you want see anymore in just a short time because I'll be gone. The question is, would His absence mean that they would not need to worry about fulfilling this new commandment?

Now, obviously Jesus wanted His disciples to understand that even if they no longer were able to see His presence among them, they still had the obligation to carry out this new commandment of love. Besides shortly though He wouldn't be with them in His present physical form, He would be with them through the Blessed person of the Holy Spirit. So, our love for one another must be carried on in spite of our lack of ability to see Jesus with our eyes. It's just the same as when we are out of sight of our mates, we still have the responsibility to demonstrate that they are the ones that we are faithful to and again though we don't see Him, He sees us.

Also, from this point it is also important that we understand just how temporal our lives are here on earth, and how quickly they may be gone. Therefore, we need to make sure that we are constantly showing love to one another. For our time with one another on this earth is limited, so let's use it wisely by loving one another as much as we can while we can.

III. Third, let us notice what was new about the new commandment to love one another. (vs. 34)

Now , there was absolutely nothing new about the command to love one another. God had been telling His people for thousands of years. The Old Testament is filled with many examples and references of loving one another. As a matter of fact, the Old Testament during its' span of time in which it was carried out and written, probably talks of love more than any other writings of the time.

So the question is then, if the command to love one another had already been around for thousands of years, then what is new or different about this new commandment of love? Well, in the Old Testament Book of Leviticus and in the Gospels as well as Paul's writings, we are told to love one another as we love ourselves. (Lev. 19:18; Matt. 19:19; Matt. 22:38; Gal; 5:14).

However, in this new commandment of love, Jesus tells us what is new is that we not love one another as yourself but rather now we are to love one another as He loved us. So, our love for one another is to be based on His love for us. Now, that raised the bar by a significant amount.

What does it mean to love one another as He loved us? Well, it means that we love one another with a sacrificial love. A love that is unconditional, forgiving and unending. That is how Jesus loved and loves us and we are to love one another.

IV. Fourth, let us notice why He gave the new commandment of love. (vs. 35).

There has to be distinguishing marks that sets a person aside which reveals that they are truly Christians, truly belonging to God. One of those distinguishing marks, if not the most important one, is based upon our love for one another as Christ Jesus loved us. Jesus clearly says that they will know we are Christians by our love for one another.

Before the Covid 19 experience, one of if not the main reasons people stayed away from church, was because of all those hypocrites who attended church. To them, those hypocrites make church to be no different than the world they already live in. in other words, they don't see Jesus by the actions of those hypocrites.

Now, praise God not everyone in church is a hypocrite, and to stay away from church because for some it is just an excuse. Because within the church there are true Believers who are truly showing that they are followers of Jesus Christ by the love that they are showing to one another.

However, we certainly want to do everything possible we can to show the world the love of Jesus. So, let us constantly be praying and seeking by the Spirit of God to be a people who are loving one another.

Concl. We want the world to know that we are followers of Jesus so that we can help them to become followers of Jesus themselves.

Well, the, let's get to loving one another and they will know that we are His disciples.

*Jesus Loves You
Ralph Lee, Jr.*

Baby Bottles Ministry
Due NOW

Sunday School Classes

@

9:15am

CAMO CLASS

Room 406

Leader- Bobby Smith
.....

GLEANERS CLASS

Room 401

Leader-Audrey Roberts
.....

VISIONARIES CLASS

Building 3, Old Social Hall

Leader-Wilbur Daley
.....

SOJOURNERS CLASS

Room 417

Leader-Mack Pope
.....

SENIOR ADULT MEN CLASS

Room 413

Leader-Truett Vaigneur
.....

YOUTH

Youth Annex

Leader-Faye Lowther
.....

Wednesday Night Services
@
7pm

PASTOR'S PRAYER SERVICE
Building 3, Old Social Hall
Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

ABIDE CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
Multi-Purpose Building
Leader-Wilbur Daley

YOUTH GROUP
Youth Annex
Leader-Michelle Waitt

R.A.'S (Royal Ambassadors)
Room 417
Leader-Pat Mason

G.A.'S (GIRLS IN ACTION)
Room 415
Leader-Carol Davis

SECA DRAMA PRESENTS

CHATEAU LA ROACH



My mission in life is not merely to survive, but to thrive; and to do so with some passion, some compassion, some humor, and some style.

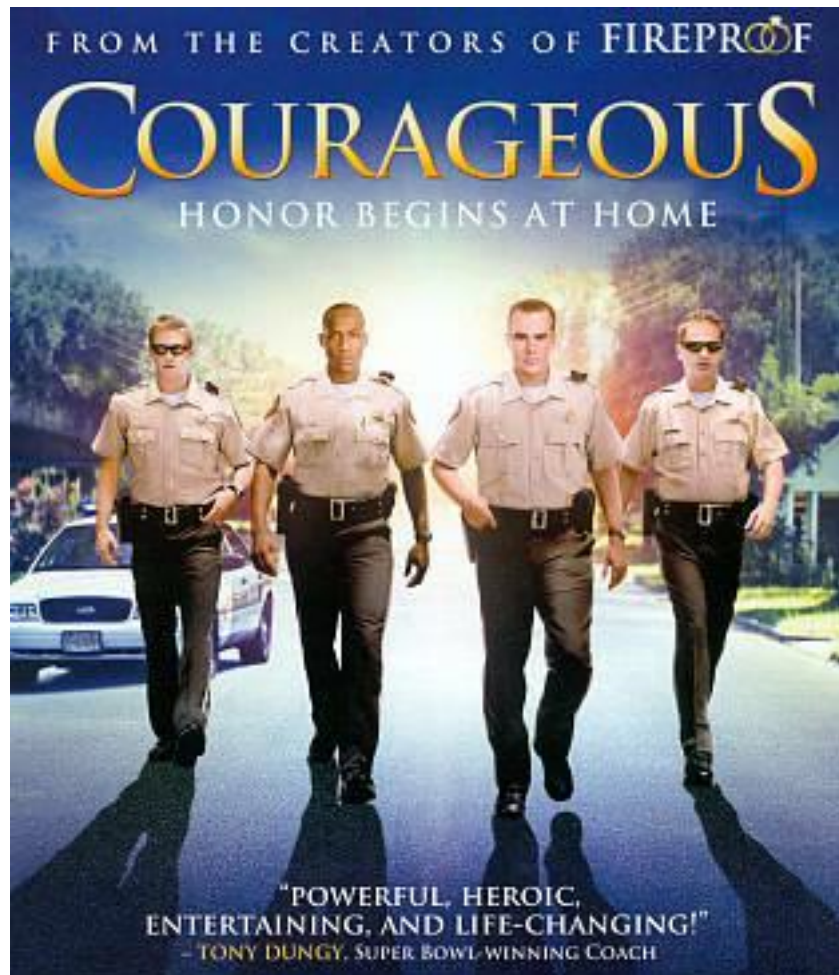
March 12, 13 at 7 PM

9009 TARBORO ROAD
RIDGELAND, SC

MAYA ANGELOU

Directed by-Mrs. Rhonda Stones

Movie Night



Sunday, February 28th

Concessions 6:00 pm

Movie 7:00 pm

*Popcorn & Drinks provided
Please bring finger foods to share*



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WEDNESDAY NIGHT Suppers



**TO BE
ANNOUNCED**

*\$5.00 each or \$15.00 for a
family of 4 or more.
NO Meal Deliveries at this
time.*

INFORMATION NEEDED

Due to a computer crash at the end of the 2020 year, many of our membership records were lost. The church office is asking that, even if you have not had any changes, to please fill out the Member Info Sheets on the back wall and turn in to the church office, a deacon or put in offering plate.

We have replaced the old computer and are working on a new system. It is imperative that we get the member info back into our system.

If you know any members who are not currently attending due to the virus situation, please feel free to take an info sheet to them.

Thank You

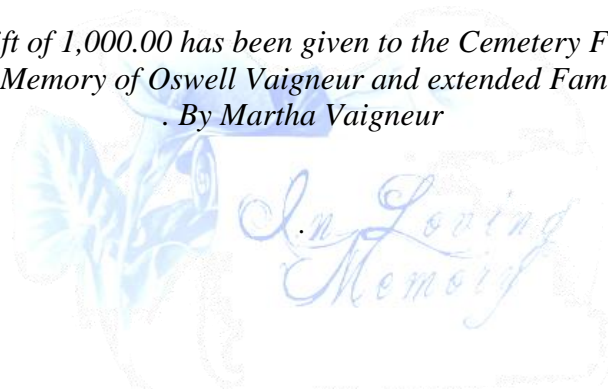
Share A Need Ministry

The Grandmother's Group has begun a new ministry. If you know anyone who has a particular need that the Grandmother's Group could help minister to, please contact Carol Davis @ 843-226-0258 or let any member of the Grandmother's Group.



Memorial

*A gift of 1,000.00 has been given to the Cemetery Fund
In Memory of Oswell Vaigneur and extended Family
By Martha Vaigneur*



GSBC Prayer Page

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

Leadership
*President of the
United States of America*

*Vice President of the
United States of America*

Hospitals

Surgery / Recovery

*Skylar Saygen
Ann Blocker
Michelle Rooks
Marie Cole
Stephen Roberts
Bob Mosely*

Nursing Centers

*Elaine Degler-RNC
Wilma Jean McGill-RNC
Bobby Mohn-Indigo Pines HHI
Byron Vaigneur-Assist.*

Church Needs

*Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries*

Unspoken

*Jessica Cleland
Steve Crosby
Heather Betz
Randy Bethune
Jason Holt
Jennifer Cooler Mazzochi*

Cancer / Treatments

*Lynn Daugherty
Sidney
Douglas Denegel
Becky Goretzka
Gail Sims
Gloria Davis
Gary Malphrus
Skip Brooks
Cynthia Box
Regina Bouye
Kaiaya Alston
Evelyn Olsen
Tripp Daley
Wesley Ethridge
Angela Proctor
Jay Dalton*

Expecting / Births

Heather Reid, Feb.

Please Continue To Remember

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

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

*Ministries
Outreach Ministry
In reach Ministry
Abide Wednesday Services*

Bereavement

Family of

Other Health Needs

*Cookie Daley
Jane Gorman
Bobby Tootle
Randy Smoak
Brenda Farve
Andrew Miller
Lloyd Way
Loony Jones
(Jeffrey Stanley's Grandfather)
Tracey Lake
Pat Kemple
Annette Mole
Jerry E. Cooler
Derris Davenport
Bobby Smith
Keith Gamo
Wilbur & Debra Daley
Wallace Malphrus
Telie Ethridge
Kenny Smith
Dora Reynolds
Pinky Rushing
Chip Sutler
Arlette Jones
Sara Davis*

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: Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.....*jehu27@gmail.com*

Music Director: Richard Waitt.....*waittfamily83@gmail.com*

Sunday School Director: Mike Davis.....

ABIDE Contemporary Service: Wilbur Daley.....

Pianist: Michelle Waitt..... *waittfamily83@gmail.com*

Administrative Assistant: Sybil Reynolds.....*greatswampbc@gmail.com*

School Administrator: Donna Carter.....*dcarter@hargray.com*

Landscaper: Wallace Malphrus.....*Josie6@embarqmail.com*



<i>Monday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Pat Azzarelli</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>24th</i>	<i>Christopher Waitt</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>27th</i>	<i>Sarah Malphrus</i>



<i>Monday</i>	<i>22nd</i>	<i>Ron & Lucille Degler</i>
		<i>Ronnie & Ann Nettles</i>



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

Sunday Morning Breakfast 8:15AM
Sunday School..... 9:15AM
Morning Worship..... 10:30AM
Wednesday Night Supper 6:00PM
Wednesday Night Service 7:00PM

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