



*“Hosanna to the Son of David!”  
“Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord!” “Hosanna in the  
highest heaven!”*

*Matthew 21:8-9 NIV*



*Great Swamp Baptist Church  
April 2, 2023*

# *Great Swamp Baptist Church*

Sunday Morning Worship

*10:30 AM*

**Announcements**

*Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

**Call to Worship**

*“Hear Our Praises”*

**Invocation**

*Fred Stanley*

**Praise & Worship**

*“Through the Blood”  
“Wondrous Cross Medley”*

*Richard Waitt*

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer  
Worship by Giving  
Offertory Special by Mended

*Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

**Message**

*Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.*

**Invitation**

**Benediction Prayer**

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*Sunday Mornings*  
*Following The Song Service:*



**Nursery**  
**\*Help Needed\***



Helpers:  
Emily Johnson



**DEACON OF THE WEEK:**

Today:

**Fred Stanley: 843-726-1963**

Next Week:

**Mack Pope: 843-540-6636**



*From  
Pastor  
Ralph's  
Desk:*



## **A Dinner in Honor of Jesus** **(John 12:1-11)**

### **Introduction:**

In our last message we examined the Sanhedrin's plot to kill Jesus. Because of this plot Jesus decides for a short period of time to lay low in a small town on the edge of the desert.

Soon thereafter the Jewish Passover celebration was getting underway in Jerusalem, and thousands of people were coming there for the celebration from all over. And the main topic of discussion was will Jesus come to the celebration with the threat of being arrested and even killed hanging over Him?

Well, the answer to the question is a definite yes because it was His destiny to do so. He didn't come to earth merely for the purpose of just hanging out with us and fellowshiping with us. Rather He came with a specific task at hand and that task was to go to the old rugged cross where He would die in our place and accomplish our eternal salvation. So, yes, He will show up at the Passover celebration.

This journey to Jerusalem for this particular Passover celebration would be His last week here on earth. That journey began with a dinner given to Him in His honor, and that's what we will examine today, a dinner in Honor of Jesus.

### **I. First, let's notice the place of the meal (vs 1, 2)**

We are told in these verses that the village is Bethany and the home was one that He was very familiar with because He had been there many times before. He was always welcome in the homes of Martha, Mary, and Lazarus. As a matter of fact, it wasn't a reluctant kind of welcome where they would allow Him to come by if He was insistent about seeing them. Rather they were the ones who were extremely insistent that anytime He was nearby that He just had to come by and stay with them. And it's important to point out that they were this way even before Jesus resurrected Lazarus.

Whenever Jesus came to their home He was served. He was fed. He was listened to. He was given space to do His ministry and room and board.

It was as though this house was as much His home as it was theirs. We get that sense from the previous chapter where Jesus, away from Bethany receives news that Lazarus is very sick. It was specifically told to Him this way, "so the sister sent word to Jesus, 'Lord, the one you love is sick.'" (John 11:3). A couple of verses later we are told, "Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus." (John 11:5)

Now we need to ask ourselves is Jesus welcome in our homes in the same manner as He was at Martha's, Mary's, and Lazarus' home? Do we give Him the highest honor? Do we serve Him in our homes? Do we give Him the opportunity to use our homes? Do we love Him in our homes? Are people able to decipher that Jesus lives in our homes?

I do want to say praise God before I move on to my next point that it's so wonderful that we are told that Jesus loved the people of this home. He loved Martha. He loved Mary. He loved Lazarus. Yes, Jesus loves the world but those who get to experience His love are those who welcome Him into their hearts and homes.

### **II. Second, let's notice the period of the meal (verses 2, 3)**

What I'm referring to with this point is when the meal was given. It was given six days before the Passover meal. And just as the meal He's about to eat was given in honor of Him so the Passover meal six days away will also be a focus upon Jesus as well.

The Passover meal celebrated two primary things. First, it celebrated Israel's deliverance from Egyptian bondage. Second, it celebrated each first born son of each Israelite family being spared from the death angel as it passed through Egypt destroying the firstborn son of every home that did not have the blood of the lamb painted on the side of their door frame and the top of their door frame. The Israelites were spared because they obeyed God and painted the blood of the lamb on their door frames while the Egyptians didn't because God intended on taking their firstborn son.

Jesus Christ has become the sacrificial lamb for us and by His blood we too have been spared from death, hell, and the grave. The Bible tells us "So whether you eat or drink or whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God...." (I Cor 10:31). Both meals glorified Christ.

### **III. Third, let's notice the praise at the meal (verses 2, 3)**

We are specifically told that this meal was given in Jesus' Honor. And everything that took place at this meal was to honor, glorify, and praise our Lord Jesus Christ for resurrecting Lazarus from the dead. Lazarus was seated with Jesus at the table to honor Him. Martha was serving Him, and Mary anointed His feet. So at Martha's, Mary's, and Lazarus' home Jesus was not only at this meal worshipped, praised, and honored, but it appears to be that He was always the person of praise at their home.

We need to ask ourselves is Jesus honored, worshipped, and praised at our homes both privately and openly? Our homes should be places of praise and worship of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Martha, Mary, and Lazarus honored Jesus because of who He is and because of what He had done for them with the resurrection of Lazarus. However, we not only know of the resurrection of Lazarus but everything else that followed Lazarus' resurrection and this meal given in His honor. We know of His crucifixion and resurrection for the redemption of our sins. So how much more should our homes be places of worship where Jesus is honored above all others.

### **IV. Fourth, let's notice the preparation of the meal (verses 3-8)**

Now with this point I'm not referring to the actual preparation of the meal itself. Rather I'm referring to the anointing that Mary did to Jesus when she poured the expensive perfume on Jesus' feet and then wiped it with her own hair. Jesus tells us that she did this in preparation of his burial.

Now the question is did Mary actually know that Jesus was going to die? Well, we really don't know for sure. But one thing we do know for sure is that she knew that if He did He could resurrect Himself. For He not only resurrected Lazarus, but had declared Himself to be the resurrection and the Life.

I like what one preacher said about Mary's devotion to our Lord when she anointed Jesus' feet. He said that, "Jesus was accepting the worship that Mary gave Him because she rightly saw that He is worthy of all that we can give Him and even more. As Isaac Watts put it ("When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"): 'Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a present far too small: Love so amazing, so divine Demands my soul, my life, my all.'

The point is, devotion to Christ will cost you financially. If He bought you with His blood, you don't own anything. It's all His and He can direct you to give some or all of it for His kingdom purposes. Probably most of us would have sold the perfume, given the ten percent to the Lord, and pocketed the rest to spend on getting a later model mule! But Mary gave it all because she knew that Jesus is worth it."

**Conclusion:**

So in my conclusion I just want you to ask: Do people know that Jesus is honored above all in our homes?

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee



On March 20th (a teacher workday) the teachers at Step of Faith met with Jasper County Sheriff's Office for a class on active shooter training. Unfortunately, a few days later the tragic events at Covenant Christian School in Nashville, Tennessee happened. Thus, we have moved our security improvements to a top priority.

Due to financial strains on everyone this year, Step of Faith has not had a fundraiser. Instead, they are asking for each family to donate whatever they can to help fund this need. Specific items can also be donated, as well as work done or work paid for by a group of parents. Anything helps. We absolutely must make our campus more secure for our students, faculty, and families.

You can send donations to the office, pay on Praxi, and/or the school Venmo account (coming soon - see Wendy Gray.) Any questions please see Donna Carter, Wendy Gray, or Jennifer in the church office.





**2023 CHARGER  
BOYS BASEBALL SCHEDULE**

Friday	3/10/23	AWAY	vs. Legacy	5pm
Tuesday	3/14/23	AWAY	vs. Northside	5pm
Thursday	3/16/23	HOME	vs. N. Walterboro	5pm
Tuesday	3/21/23	HOME	vs. Legacy	5pm
Tuesday	3/28/23	HOME	vs. Orangeburg	5pm
Friday	3/31/23	HOME	vs. Harvest Day	5pm
Tuesday	4/11/23	AWAY	vs. Orangeburg	6pm
Tuesday	4/18/23	HOME	vs. Northside	5pm
Thursday	4/20/23	AWAY	vs. N. Walterboro	5pm
Friday	4/21/23	HOME	vs. Harvest Day	5pm
Monday	4/24/23	PLAYOFF 1 <sup>st</sup> ROUND		
Thursday	4/27/23	QUARTER FINAL		
Fri/Sat	5/5-5/6	STATE TOURNAMENT		



## **MOVIE NIGHT!!!**

**Sunday, April 16th  
Concessions at 6:00 p.m.  
Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.**

**Please bring finger foods to share!  
Tea and Popcorn provided.**

**Come Enjoy A Great Wholesome Family Movie!**



# VBS 2023

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!

Our VBS 2023 will run Sunday June 18th through Wednesday  
June 21st from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
The meal will be from 5:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Please mark your calendars and sign up on the back wall to help out where you can. A list of supplies needed will be produced shortly and we also accept monetary donations to help with supplies and food costs.

Any questions, comments, suggestions, etc. please call Nicole Mariocourt at 843-726-2211, Saylor Olivas at 843-812-8879, or Jennifer Meador at 843-726-3631





Easter Services:

Sunday, April 9th

10:30 a.m.



Son Up Service

8:00 a.m.

At the crosses in the cemetery

Come join us as we worship this  
glorious day and praise our risen  
Savior!! Hallelujah!



Thursday, April 13th  
In the Multi-Purpose Building  
Dine In or To-Go  
\$10 per plate (buy ahead or at the door)

Dine-In dinner will be from  
5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

To-Go dinner plates will be available  
from 2:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

This is a fundraiser to help the Step  
of Faith Class of 2023.

**Come out and show your support!**



## Operation Christmas Child

April is here and we are collecting new items! See the list below and please help out if you can. The more you can donate, the more boxes we can fill, hence the more children receive boxes. So let's all bring in some hygiene items!

### April:

Stuffed Animals

Barbies

Matchbox Cars

Any Assorted Toys

Yo-yos

Puzzles

Balls

Jump Ropes

Remember: NO liquids, glass, or military items. You can also give a monetary donation instead of buying the items. No donation is too small!





<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>4th</i>	<i>Nancy Rivera</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>6th</i>	<i>Scott Boyles</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Simeon Mobley</i>



**Sunday, April 2nd:**  
**Mike & Wanda Davis**

**Tuesday, April 4th:**  
**David & Cassandra Bradley**

**Thursday, April 6th:**  
**Charles & Bernice Malphrus**



**Business Meeting**  
Wednesday, April 12th  
at 7:00 p.m.



**Deacons' Meeting**  
Monday, April 10th  
at 6:00 p.m.



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**Grandmothers' Group**  
Monday, April 3rd  
at 11:30 a.m.

*All grandmothers welcome!*







**Beginning at 6:00 p.m.  
Service to follow at 7:00 p.m.**

**Team Keith will be cooking!  
Come out and have dinner  
and fellowship with us!**

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

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**Sunday Morning  
Breakfast**

Begins at 8:00 a.m.  
Ends at 9:00 a.m.  
\$5.00 each or \$15.00  
for a family of 4  
or more

**Sunday School Classes**

**@ 9:15am**

**CAMO CLASS - Room 406 - Bobby Smith**  
.....

**GLEANERS CLASS - Room 401 - Darlene Bollack**  
.....

**VISIONARIES CLASS - Building 3, Old Social Hall**  
*Leader - Greg Mariocourt/Diane Thames*  
.....

**SOJOURNERS CLASS - Room 417 - Mack Pope**  
.....

**YOUTH - Youth Annex Leader - Amanda Hodges**  
.....

**BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES - Room 415 -**  
**April Malphrus**

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**Wednesday Night Services**

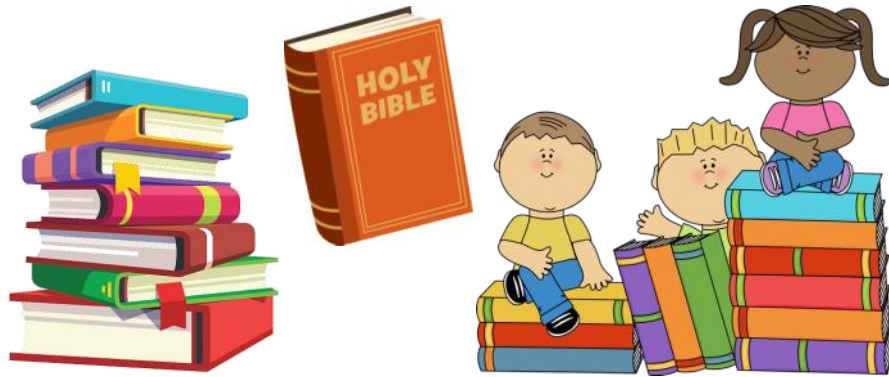
**@ 7:00 pm**

**WORSHIP SERVICE** *Multi-Purpose Building*  
**Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.**  
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**YOUTH GROUP** *Youth Annex*  
**Leader-Michelle Waitt**  
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**R.A.'S (Royal Ambassadors)** *Room 417*  
**Leader-Pat Mason**  
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**G.A.'S (GIRLS IN ACTION)** *Room 415*  
**Leader-Diane Thames**



From now until the end of the year, Okatee Baptist Church is collecting Bibles, old Sunday School materials, and other used Christian literature to send to Love Packages, a non-denominational, not-for-profit ministry that equips pastors, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers all over the world with free bibles and Christian literature. Everything they send is donated by individuals, ministries, and publishers in the U.S.

If you have old religious materials that you no longer use please consider donating them to this ministry. Items may be dropped off at Okatee Baptist Church or Savannah River Baptist Association. For more information contact Pastor Woody Oliver at 864-554-7335 or email [okateepastor1@gmail.com](mailto:okateepastor1@gmail.com). ***\*\*You can also drop them off with Jennifer in the church office and she will get the materials where they need to go.***

To learn more about Love Packages and to see a list of materials needed visit their website <https://lovepackages.org/>.



Going on Now through Easter.

Goal: \$1,200

"Let us not be weary in well doing  
but accepting from God each new  
day as a new opportunity, resolve  
there shall be no squandered hours,  
no wasted minutes."

Annie Armstrong



**2023 CHARGER  
LADIES SOFTBALL SCHEDULE**

Thursday	3/9/23	AWAY	vs. Legacy	5pm
Monday	3/13/23	HOME	vs. Sumter	4pm
Tuesday	3/14/23	HOME	vs. Patrick Henry	5pm
Thursday	3/23/23	HOME	vs. Victory	4pm
Tuesday	3/28/23	HOME	vs. Orangeburg	5pm
Thursday	3/30/23	HOME	vs. Legacy	5pm
Tuesday	4/11/23	AWAY	vs. Orangeburg	4pm
Tuesday	4/18/23	AWAY	vs. Sumter	4pm
Tuesday	4/25/23	AWAY	vs. Patrick Henry	5pm
Friday	4/28/23	AWAY	vs. Victory	4pm
Fri/Sat	5/5-5/6	State Tournament		



**Easter Sunday, April 9th  
During Children's  
Church**

**Any questions, please  
call Olivia  
at 843-226-4246**

**EASTER EGG  
HUNT**



# GSBC Prayer Page

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

## **Leadership**

*President / Vice President of  
the United States of America*

## **Church Needs**

*Sunday School  
SFCA-Donna Carter  
Child Development  
Ministries*

*Ministries  
Outreach Ministry  
In reach Ministry*

## **Bereavement**

*Joe Altman Family*

## **Unspoken**

## **Hospitals**

## **Other Health Needs**

## **Surgery/Recovery**

## **Cancer/Treatments**

*Regina Bouye  
Kaiaya Alston  
Pat Headley  
Leigh Laycock  
Joyce Garbade*

*Pinky Rushing  
Sara Davis  
Bob Cramer  
Mary Kay Cade  
Ellen Nettles  
Jennifer Pitts Key  
Chris Blanchard  
Doug & Melanie Hamm  
Rose Sheehan  
Steve Bailey  
Kayla Malphrus  
Stephanie Crowe  
Dorthie Armstrong  
Lewis Hughes  
Rose David  
Barry DeMay  
Tristan Simmons  
Marie Coleman  
James Williamson  
Marie Cole  
Glenn Scott  
Rhonda Stones  
Bill Horry*

## **Nursing Centers**

*Elaine Degler - RNC  
Bobby Mohn - Indigo Pines HHI  
Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe  
Dot Nettles - NHC  
Karen Malphrus - Encompass (Room 114)*

## **Please Continue To Remember**

### **Homebound**

*Shirley Malphrus      Tom Hinely  
Rose Boyles          Ann Blocker  
Judy Smith            Doby Cleland  
Vera Floyd            Lucille & Ron Degler  
Barbara Mills        Red & Helen Malphrus  
Alice & Gary Way    Thomas & Erma Cooler  
Kenny Smith          Marie Malphrus  
Diane Hannah*

## **Pray For Our Military**

*Sgt. Jared Blanton-Deployed  
Matthew Mills-US Marines  
Jericho Malphrus-Sp. Agent/Air Force  
Washington, D.C.  
Michael Sottile - Ret.  
Tristan Blanton-San Diego/SWCC  
Andrea C. Daring-Charleston, SC*

## Church Staff

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

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

*Sunday School Director: Mike Davis* .....

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

*Administrative Assistant: Jennifer Meador* .....greatswampbaptist@hargray.com  
843-726-3631

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

## Stewardship

<b>Tithes</b>	<b>This Week</b>	<b>Weekly Budget</b>	<b>Surplus/Deficit</b> + / -
	<b>\$4,604.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,012.49</b>	<b>-\$408.49</b>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$150.00</i>		
<b>Designated Funds</b>	<b>This Week</b>	*****	<b>Acct. Balances</b>
<i>Office Supplies</i>	<i>\$75.00</i>	*****	<i>\$200.08</i>
<i>Adult Senior Trip 2023</i>	<i>\$25.00</i>	*****	<i>\$693.94</i>
<i>Wednesday Night Supper</i>	<i>\$141.00</i>	*****	<i>\$-151.54</i>
<i>Annie Armstrong Offering</i>	<i>\$145.00</i>	*****	<i>\$245.00</i>
<i>VBS 2023</i>	<i>\$177.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,073.02</i>
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	<i>\$95.00</i>	*****	<i>\$838.46</i>
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>	*****	<i>\$558.86</i>
<i>Dot Lee Scholarship</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,449.70</i>



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

*Sunday School*.....9:15AM  
*Morning Worship*.....10:30AM  
*Wednesday Night Service*.....7:00PM

Email: [greatswampbc@gmail.com](mailto:greatswampbc@gmail.com)  
Website: [greatswampbaptistchurch.com](http://greatswampbaptistchurch.com)  
Church Office: (843) 726-3631