

  
CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES!



*Great Swamp Baptist Church*  
*May 28, 2023*

# *Great Swamp Baptist Church*

Sunday Morning Worship

*10:30 AM*

**Announcements**

*Eddie Malphrus*

**Call to Worship**

**Invocation**

*Keith Gamo*

**Praise & Worship**

*Richard Waitt*

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer  
Worship by Giving  
Offertory Special by Cynthia Malphrus

*Eddie Malphrus*

**Message**

*Eddie Malphrus*

**Invitation**

**Benediction Prayer**

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*Sunday Mornings*  
*Following The Song Service:*



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

**Children's**  
**CHURCH**

**Helpers:**  
**Emily Johnson**



**DEACON OF THE WEEK:**

Today:

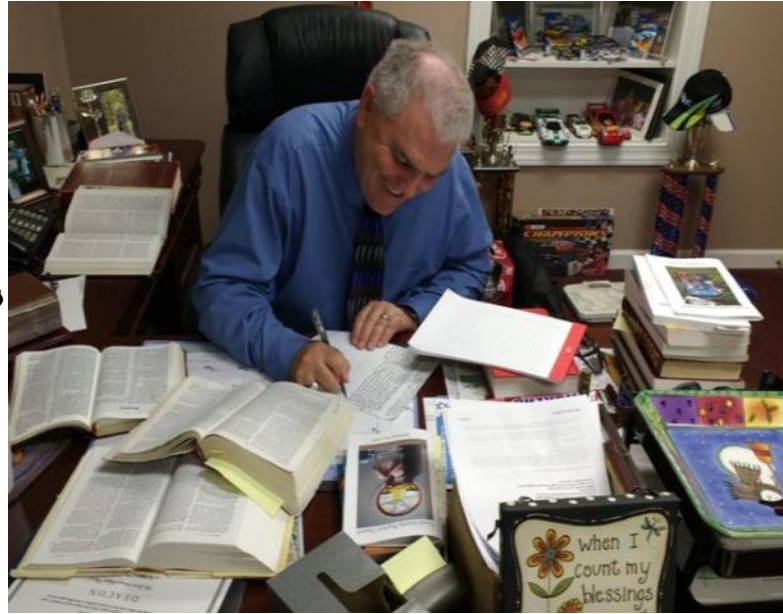
**Keith Gamo: 843-986-8525**

Next Week:

**Bjo Mills: 843-726-4344**



*From  
Pastor  
Ralph's  
Desk:*



## **You're Not Finished Yet** **(Joshua 1:1-18)**

### **Introduction:**

We know that God promised to Israel land that would be their very own. In our set of verses, Israel after 40 long years of marching through the wilderness have finally reached the border of the promise land. Reaching that point was a great time of excitement and celebration.

However, reaching the border was not the end of their journey. Though it may have felt like it, and it indeed was a great time of accomplishment and celebration, yet in reality their journey was beginning all over again. For though they have reached the border, they must now go into the land and possess it. You can celebrate and rejoice that you've come this far, but the next phase of the journey must begin. Joshua is telling them that they're not finished yet.

Today with this message we want to say to all of our seniors that it's wonderful that you have reached this point in your life, and take a few days to celebrate it, but also understand that getting a high school diploma is not the end of the journey. Like Israel at the border of the promise land you must now begin the next phase of your journey and take hold of the plans and purpose that God has for the rest of your lives. Thus, this means that you're not finished yet.

**I. First, you're not finished yet because you've still got a life to live.**

God didn't bring Israel to the border of the promise land to merely give them a peek over. No, he told them in this chapter to prepare to march over into the promise land because in three days they were moving out and crossing the river to take possession.

So reaching the border was not the end game for the nation of Israel. Rather it was a new start for them. They now had to take hold of the rest of their lives God had prepared for them in the promise land.

Getting your high school diploma is not the end game that God has for your life. In a few days all of our celebrations will be over, and you will have to wake up and start living the rest of your life. You'll put the party hats, ceremonies, and special dinners given in your honor behind you and you'll start living the rest of your life. At least that's what is expected of you to do.

But we must remember that getting to the border of the promise land and going in to possess it was the life that God chose for Israel to live. As well we must chose to make the next journey of our lives the one that God has chosen for us to live. So we are not finished yet, we've still got a life to live the one God has chosen for us, so go live that life.

**II. Second, you're not finished yet because you've got labor you must do.**

It's indeed true that God had promised the land to Israel, but He didn't promise them that they could just sit back and coast along while He took care of everything for them in possessing the land. No, God told them that indeed it was theirs but they had to go in and possess it. It was God's gift to them, but they had to go in to be able to experience the promise God had made to them and it wasn't going to be easy, however, because of God it was all completely possible, but God chose to use the people themselves to possess it.

For forty years Israel had marched through the wilderness. In these forty years they learned a lot of things that could and did help them to go in and possess the land. So it is that God has helped each one of us to get to where we are at today and with that and trusting Him we must labor on taking hold of the life God's called us to. As the old hymn says, "we will work till Jesus come, and then we'll be gathered home."

Seniors, as well as all of us, must work hard for the cause of Christ. We are not finished yet not till Jesus comes.

**III. Third, you're not finished yet because you've got the law that you must obey.**

To the nation of Israel of course the law was a reference to God's word to them. In their forty years of wondering in the wilderness they received much of what is God's word as printed in the Bible today. And for then this word often came directly out of the voice of God himself. God reminds Israel as they are getting ready to march over into the promise land and take possession of it they were to do so in a manner that was conducive to the teaching of God's law that He had laid down for the nations in His Holy Word.

In other words whenever they took possession of the promise land they were to live in that land, and far as that goes anywhere they went, according to the laws God had given them.

Now in order for them to do this they had to know what God's law said and thus they needed to mediate on it. They then had to make a commitment to keep it and to never back down from it.

Young people and all of us we aren't finished yet because we've got God's word to get to know, learn, commit to and follow, never backing down. And that's exactly what the world is going to try to get us to do but don't let them, because it's only fulfilling God's word that will bring eternal rewards. Besides God is whom we will finally be accountable to, not the world.

#### **IV. Fourth, you're not finished yet because you've got the Lord to see you through.**

Yes, Israel had a life still to live, labor to do, the law to fulfill, all of which seemed a bit overwhelming, until they hear the rest of God's promise to them. He not only promises to them the land but He also promises to give them the power they will need to take possession of the land. The power will come from His presence with them. "I will give you every place where you set your foot, as I promised Moses... As I was with Moses so I will be you; I will never leave you nor forsake you. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be terrified; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." (vs 3, 5, 9). There are other verses in the chapter saying the same thing.

As God promised His abiding presences with Israel in the Old Testament and in the New Testament, He's done the same with the church. Jesus said that He would never leave us or forsake us and that He would go with us to the ends of the earth.

So we can go live the life God's called us to because He's promised to be there for us, and with us to guide us along the path He intends for us to take.

**Conclusion:**

So today we celebrate your achievements to be able to graduate but tomorrow we challenge us all go take hold of this life God has called us to because we can because He will see us through.

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee

**\*\*IMPORTANT\*\***

The church will be voting on Mike Davis as the new Sunday School director for the next year. This voting will be held at the business meeting on Wednesday, June 10 at 7:00 p.m. Please attend if you wish to vote on this issue.



## 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-Wallace Malphrus & Fred Stanley*  
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**G.A.'S (GIRLS IN ACTION)** *Room 415*  
*Leader-Diane Thames*



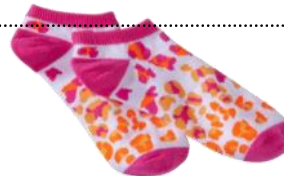
## Operation Christmas Child

New items being collected for June! 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!

### May:

Socks  
Stuffed Animals  
Matchbox Cars  
Ziploc bags (quart size)  
Combs/Hair brushes (boys/girls)  
Wash Cloths  
Barbies  
Toothbrushes

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>Thursday</i>	<i>1st</i>	<i>Jonathan Malphrus</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>2nd</i>	<i>Patrícia Malphrus</i>

**Sunday morning breakfast and  
Wednesday night dinner will  
resume in September!!**

## **MOVIE NIGHT!!!**

**Lifemark  
Sunday, June 25th  
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!**



**Business Meeting**  
Wednesday, June 14th  
at 7:00 p.m.



**Deacons' Meeting**  
Monday, June 12th  
at 6:00 p.m.



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**Grandmothers' Group**  
Monday, June 5th  
at 11:30 a.m.  
*All grandmothers welcome!*  
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# VBS 2023

**Three more weeks until VBS!!!**

## **\*\*MEETING NOTICE\*\***

**Sunday, June 4th right after church. Lunch will be provided. Please plan to attend if possible.**

We still need monetary donations or gift cards to purchase food. As you know we will be providing dinner for all the children each night of VBS. We do NOT need anymore paper towel or toilet paper rolls. We have an abundance and are extremely grateful to each and every one of you who donated these to VBS. We are, however, still in need of river rocks or large flat type rocks. If you have any of these, please bring them in.

If you have not signed up to help with VBS and you have felt called to do so, please contact Nicole at 843-726-2211, Saylor at 843-812-8879, or Jennifer Meador at 843-726-3631. We would love to have more help for VBS.



# GSBC Prayer Page

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

## **Leadership**

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

## **Hospitals**

## **Surgery/Recovery**

*Mark Simpson - kidney and  
liver transplant  
Lloyd Freeman*

## **Nursing Centers**

*Elaine Degler - RNC  
Bobby Mohn - Indigo Pines HHI  
Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe*

## **Church Needs**

*Sunday School  
SFCA-Donna Carter  
Child Development  
Ministries*

## **Unspoken**

## **Cancer/Treatments**

*Pat Headley  
Leigh Laycock  
Joyce Garbade  
Ann Blocker  
Tex Lowther*

## **Ministries**

*Outreach Ministry  
In reach Ministry*

## **Bereavement**

*Family of Ted Bekich  
Family of Billy Boyles  
Family of Bobbie Mears*

## **Other Health Needs**

*Mary Kay Cade  
Barry DeMay  
Tristan Simmons  
Marie Coleman  
James Williamson  
Glenn Scott  
Rhonda Stones  
Debbie Hale  
Virginia Byles  
Gene Price  
Mark Simpson  
Julia Rushing  
Pinky Rushing  
Keith Gamo  
Kistler Malphrus  
Billy Moser  
Connie Benton*

## **Please Continue To Remember**

### **Homebound**

<i>Shirley Malphrus</i>	<i>Tom Hinely</i>
<i>Rose Boyles</i>	<i>Ann Blocker</i>
<i>Judy Smith</i>	<i>Doby Cleland</i>
<i>Vera Floyd</i>	<i>Lucille &amp; Ron Degler</i>
<i>Barbara Mills</i>	<i>Red &amp; Helen Malphrus</i>
<i>Kenny Smith</i>	<i>Thomas &amp; Erma Cooler</i>
<i>Diane Hannah</i>	<i>Marie Malphrus</i>
	<i>Dot Smart</i>

### **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



Please note the church office will be closed Monday, May 29th in observance of Memorial Day.

## Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	<i>\$1,876.00</i>	<i>\$ 5,012.49</i>	<i>\$-3,136.49</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$50.00</i>		
Designated Funds	This Week	*****	Acct. Balances
<i>Office Supplies</i>	<i>\$20.00</i>	*****	<i>\$461.68</i>
<i>Sunday Morning Breakfast</i>	<i>\$80.00</i>	*****	<i>\$1,473.76</i>
<i>Special Events</i>	<i>\$380.00</i>	*****	<i>\$380.00</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