

*Great Swamp Baptist Church*  
*July 2, 2023*

# Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

**Announcements**

*Pastor Ralph Lee*

**Call to Worship**

*Hymn #635 "The Star Spangled Banner"*

*The Pledge of Allegiance*

*Hymn #634 "My Country Tis of Thee"*

**Invocation**

*Freddie Malphrus*

**Pray for Our Nation**

*"If My People" by Mended and the Worship Choir*

Prayer for Our Nation (Altar Prayer)

**Praise & Worship**

*Hymn #529 "Shine Jesus Shine"*

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

*Pastor Ralph Lee*

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special *"We Believe"*

**Message**

*Pastor Ralph Lee*

**Invitation**

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**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:

**Freddie Malphrus: 843-726-3905**

Next Week:

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



*From  
Pastor  
Ralph's  
Desk:*



## **A Biblical View of Pride**

### **Introduction:**

Our nation has declared the whole month of June as LGBTQAI+ pride month, which means that for a whole month we are called to express pride in this particular community.

However, God's word leaves absolutely no room for any nation, people and especially the church to take any pride whatsoever in the choices, decisions, and behaviors of this community, which clearly we will see from the truth of God's Holy word that we can't.

But let me also point out that God's word not only speaks out against taking pride in the LGBTQAI+ community, but it also speaks against placing pride in anything outside of the will, purpose, and honor of our God. In the book of Proverbs we discover just how much God dislikes pride. "To fear the Lord is to hate evil; I hate pride and arrogance, evil behavior and perverse speech." (Proverbs 8:13). So as we see the kind of pride we are called to promote this month, as well as much of the pride we promote, God actually hates. Therefore it's important that we get the proper Biblical view of pride so that we can use it in a way that is pleasing to God.

### **I. First, let's consider the Biblical view of gay pride.**

Now to properly get the Biblical view of gay pride we will consider several passages throughout God's word. The reasons for doing this is so that we can understand that the word of God is consistent in its teaching concerning the LGBTQ community, and beyond any doubt whatsoever the clear teaching of the Bible is that taking pride in this community and their lifestyle choice is completely and totally wrong.

For according to God's Word, the practices of the LGBTQ community are sinful in God's sight. And it's extremely important that we point this out so that we can help them on their journey of getting right with God, which always begins with the understanding that we are all sinners in the sight of our holy God and therefore need redemption.

So let us begin with the obvious place to start and that's the very first chapter of the Bible. "And God said, "Let the land produce living creatures according to their kinds: the livestock, the creatures that move along the ground, and the wild animals, each according to its kind." And it was so. God made the wild animals according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that move along the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, "Let us make mankind in our image, in our likeness, so that they may rule over the fish in the sea and the birds in the sky, over the livestock, and all the wild animals, and over all the creatures that move along the ground." So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them. God blessed them and said to them, "Be fruitful and increase in number; fill the earth and subdue it..." (Genesis 1:24-28)

Now the truth is that we don't have to really look anywhere else other than this chapter to know what God's view is concerning gay pride. For the first two human beings that God created and that He brought together in marriage were male and female and we will see that this never varies in God's word.

Second, these verses tell us that God told the animals and the humans to reproduce and multiply upon the earth. Well, in order for that to happen you have to have male and female accomplish this. Along with this when God told them to reproduce and that their reproduction would result in each kind producing their own kind. So this means that when humans reproduce then they would reproduce their kind, which would create more human beings who are either male or female and nothing else. They don't reproduce beyond what God created them to reproduce which was and is their own kind, male and female.

So let's look at many more verses which really don't require much commenting in order to understand that they teach that we must not be involved in gay pride. "Do not be with a man as one lies with a woman; that is detestable" (Leviticus 18:22). Now all of Leviticus 18 describes many sexual relations that are wrong, not just gay sex.

“If a man lies with a man as one lies with a woman, both of them have done what is detestable. They must be put to death; their blood will be on their own heads.” (Leviticus 20:13).

Now let's turn our attention to the New Testament. What does God's word say here? Well, let me first address the issue of where did Jesus stand on the matter? For many within the LGBTQ community try to point out that Jesus never addressed the gay pride issue. They say He never came out and spoke against them.

However the truth is that Jesus did and in fact clearly gave His point of view on the matter when He was once asked about the subject of divorce He gave this answer, “What did Moses command you? He replied, they said, ‘Moses permitted a man to write a certificate of divorce and send her away.’ ‘It was because your hearts were hard that Moses wrote you this law,’ Jesus replied. ‘But at the beginning of creation God made them male and female. For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two but one. Therefore what God has joined together, let man not separate.’” (Mark 10:3-9).

So Jesus with these verses show that His view on marriage and as well as gender goes all the way back to the very first chapter of the Bible, which we've already discussed. Thus His view, which is the only one that matters, is that there are only two genders, male and female, and only one proper definition of marriage, which is that of a man and woman bonded together for life. So from this we know how Jesus views gay pride month as one that is sinful and outside of God's purpose, plan, and will.

Now while we are considering the Biblical view on gay pride I want to back up to the Old Testament for consideration of one of the biggest push during pride month this year and that has to do with the transgender movement across our land. So the question is does the Bible deal with this?

So to answer that question we really don't have to go any further than what we've already examined in the first chapter of the Bible. Since God created only two genders then His creative purpose for our lives is to accept and be the person He created us to be. If it's a male, then live out your life as a male because that's who God created you to be, and vice versa.

However, not only does the first chapter of the Bible clearly rule out transgenderism but the book of Deuteronomy gives us an out and out command against it. “A woman must not wear men’s clothing, nor a man wear women’s clothing, for the Lord your God detests anyone who does this.” (Deuteronomy 22:5).

Now this verse is not merely talking about wearing clothes similar to one another, but rather wearing clothes of the opposite sex in the manner that clearly shows the distinction of that clothing as belonging to the opposite sex. Whether it’s the particular material or the manner in which they are worn or other distinction. So God is telling us that in His sight this kind of cross-dressing is detestable in His sight. It is absolutely nothing to take pride in.

Now back to the New Testament, let’s consider what Paul had to say about God’s point of view about gay pride. First, Paul gives us the most well known and discussed verses that deal with the matter. In these verses to be shared, Paul reveals that gay pride is an abomination in God’s sight. “The wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all the godlessness and wickedness of men who suppress the truth by their wickedness, since what may be known about God is plain to them. For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that men are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. Although they claimed to be wise, they became fools and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like mortal men and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth of God for a lie, and worshipped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen. Because of this, God gave them over to shameful lusts. Even their women exchanged natural relations for unnatural ones. In the same way the men also abandoned natural relations with women and were inflamed with lust for one another. Men committed indecent acts with other men, and received in themselves the due penalty for their perversion.” (Romans 1:18-27).

Now I could write a book alone on this set of verses, but for this message I want us to simply and clearly see that neither the Old Testament or the New Testament leaves us any doubt that gay pride is totally and completely against God's creative order, and is therefore sinful. Paul also tells us that their lifestyle choices will not be allowed to be apart of God's kingdom. "Do you not know that the wicked will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: Neither the sexually immoral nor idolaters nor adulterers nor male prostitutes nor homosexual offenders nor thieves nor the greedy nor the drunkard nor slanderers nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God." (I Corinthians 6:9-11).

So all of the scriptures that we have examined leave us no conclusions except that God our creator condemns any type of gay pride whatsoever.

**Conclusion:**

In that last set of verses that we read from I Corinthians which declared that among many things that male prostitutes and homosexuals can't enter the kingdom of God. But the last verse that we copied said this, "And that is what some of you were. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the spirit of our God," (I Corinthians 6:11).

My message here is not a message of hate. Rather it's a message of hope and forgiveness and redemption. Paul said that some of the believers in Corinth had been at one time male prostitutes and homosexuals and as well as other types of evil lifestyles. However through the transforming power, love, and grace of our Lord Jesus Christ they had been changed and made new creations in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Jesus Christ died for all of our sins and took the punishment that we deserve and then arose from the dead. So that through our repentance of our sins and complete and total faith in Him and what He did for us at the cross we too will be classified as those that were past tense who were at one time living immoral lives but by God's grace no longer are.

This was the first point only in the message I preached. I'll bring my next two points in next week's message.

Jesus Loves You,  
Ralph Lee



# Movie Night is Coming!!!



**Movie: To Be Determined  
Sunday, July 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!**



*A gift of \$50.00 has been given  
to the kitchen supplies fund by  
Patricia Malphrus in loving  
memory of Kistler Malphrus.*

# 1st Annual SRBA Ladies Banquet

**When:** Saturday, September 16th  
from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm

**Where:** Carolina Ballroom -  
Pickney Hall at Sun City

**Guest Speaker:** Beth Greer

**NOTE:** You **MUST** reserve your  
tickets now. Space is limited. See  
the sheet on the back wall for  
more information.



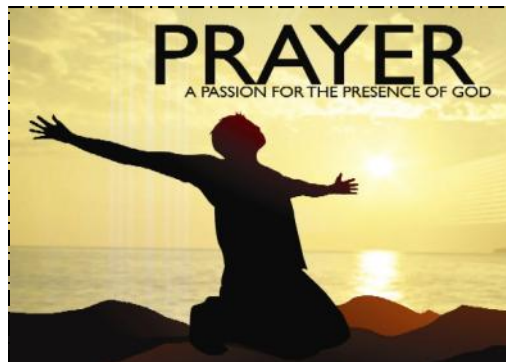
# Surprise Babyshower!

The Ladies of Great Swamp Baptist Church are invited to a surprise baby shower for Karen Creech, the SFCA high school principal.

Thursday, July 13th 7 p.m.

**It's a boy!!**

RSVP with Donna Carter at 843-422-0465  
or Jennifer Meador at 843-476-6465



Prayer Group  
Tuesday Mornings  
@ 9:00 a.m.

## 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 -  
Nicole Mauriocourt**

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

**\*\*\*During Summer-Jennifer Wall\*\*\***

**SAVE THE DATE!**

*You Are  
My Sunshine*



**Senior Celebration**

August 17, 2023

10:00am

*Sponsored by Savannah River Baptist Association*

**Place TBA**



## 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!

### June:

Socks

Stuffed Animals

Matchbox Cars

Ziploc bags (quart size)

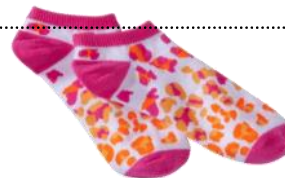
Combs/Hair brushes (boys/girls)

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>Wednesday</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>Vandy Amason</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>6th</i>	<i>Truett Vaigneur</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Jane Hodges</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>8th</i>	<i>David Sauls</i>



**Sunday, July 2nd:**  
 Freddie & Myra  
 Malphrus

**Friday, July 7th:**  
 Paul & Diane  
 Malphrus



**Business Meeting**

Wednesday, July 12th  
at 7:00 p.m.



**Deacons' Meeting**

Monday, July 10th  
at 6:00 p.m.



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**Grandmothers' Group**

Monday, July 3rd  
at 11:30 a.m.

*Chicken and drinks will be  
provided. Fourth of July theme!*

*All grandmothers welcome!*





# Old Religious Church Literature Wanted!

A barrel has been placed in the vestibule for old religious church material, such as Bibles, Christian magazines, books, devotionals, hymnals, old Sunday School materials, and other used Christian Literature. We are helping Okatee Baptist Church collect these items in order to send out Love Packages to 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. We will be collecting these items until the end of 2023.

So please bring any and all materials to the church and put them in the labeled barrel in the vestibule or leave them in the church office for Jennifer. Thank you!



# 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**

## **Hospitals**

## **Unspoken**

## **Surgery/Recovery**

*Jase Mole—2nd & 3rd degree  
burns*

## **Cancer/Treatments**

*Pat Headley  
Leigh Laycock  
Joyce Garbade  
Tex Lowther*

## **Other Health Needs**

*Mary Kay Cade  
Barry DeMay  
Marie Coleman  
James Williamson  
Glenn Scott  
Rhonda Stones  
Debbie Hale  
Gene Price  
Mark Simpson  
Julia Rushing  
Pinky Rushing  
Keith Gamo  
Connie Benton  
Lewis Hughes  
Wanda Davis  
Mike Davis  
Amy Hannah*

*Mark Simpson - kidney and  
liver transplant  
Lloyd Freeman  
Judy Smith  
Kathy Breland  
Donald Malphrus*

## **Nursing Centers**

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

## **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>

### **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  
Schuler Johnson - Basic Training Army*

## 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



The church office will be closed on Tuesday, July 4th in recognition of the Fourth of July.

## Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$4,974.00	\$ 5,012.49	\$-38.49
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$50.00		
<b>Designated Funds</b>	<b>This Week</b>	*****	<b>Acct. Balances</b>
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	\$391.38	*****	\$1,240.24
<i>Adult Senior Trip 2023</i>	\$125.00	*****	\$4,059.94



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