

Great Swamp Baptist Church
January 14, 2024

Great Swamp Baptist Church

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

Announcements

Pastor Ralph Lee

Call to Worship

Invocation

Mack Pope

Praise & Worship

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer
Worship by Giving
Offertory Special

Pastor Ralph Lee

Message

Pastor Ralph Lee

Invitation

Benediction Prayer

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery



Teacher:
Olivia Stanley

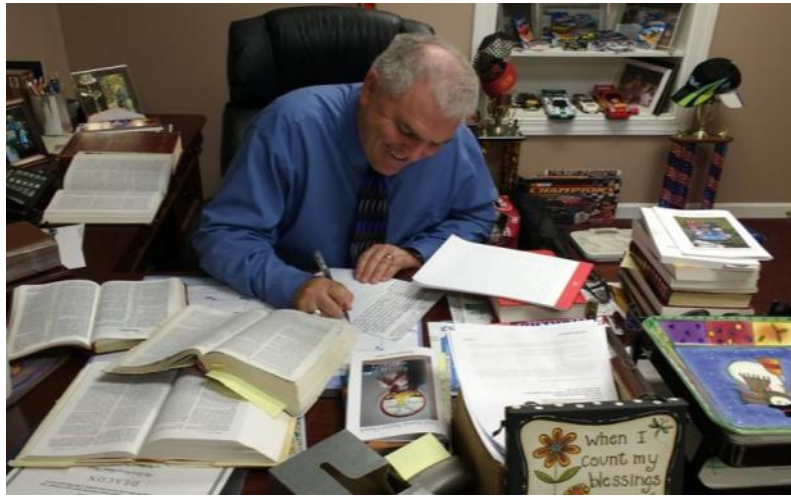
DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Mack Pope



Phone: 843-540-6636

*From
Pastor
Ralph's
Desk:*



Inspiring People to do the Work of the Lord
(Nehemiah 2:11-20)

Introduction:

On Wednesday nights we are currently going through the book of Nehemiah. Nehemiah was King Artaxerxes' Cup Bearer. King Artaxerxes was king over the Persian kingdom. One day Nehemiah had gathered news that the city of Jerusalem was lying in ruin. The city walls were completely destroyed and all the city gates had been burned completely to the ground, and none of its residents had done anything to start rebuilding those walls and gates.

Now when Nehemiah heard all of this his heart was broken over it, and God used his broken heart to lay it upon him to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the walls and its gates. By God's grace the king gave Nehemiah both permission and provisions. Nehemiah quickly got everything together and headed out taking with him a group of priests to help with the work.

Now once Nehemiah and his group finally came in Jerusalem. Nehemiah spent three days resting and getting ready for what God sent him to do. On that third evening by himself he inspected the walls and gates of the city. Once he finished his inspection he pulled all the residents of the city together and with one inspiring speech he challenged the people to rebuild the walls and gates of the city. The people were so moved and inspired that with one united loud and clear response said, "let us start rebuilding! So they began their good work." (vs 18)

So the question I want us to deal with is how did Nehemiah with one speech inspire the people to do what they themselves had chosen not to do? He did this without forcing them to do so. He did it without brow beating them into it either. Rather he was able to inspire them to freely and willingly volunteer themselves to do the task.

Now my prayer is that as we get underway with 2024 that we will learn from Nehemiah how we might inspire one another on to do the work of the Lord in our church and community.

I. First, let's notice that Nehemiah inspired the people to do the work of the Lord from his own inspiration (vs 11, 12)

When Nehemiah went before the people to challenge them to rebuild the city walls he himself had already been convinced by God that this is what he himself was to do. "...I had not told anyone what my God had put on my heart to do."

Therefore since God had laid this on his heart, when he went before the people to inspire and challenge them to rebuild the city walls his own inspiration moved and challenged them to want to be a part of this great work.

Rarely can someone inspire people to do something that they themselves haven't been inspired to do. So let us pray for inspiration from God that we might use to inspire others in the work of the Lord.

Before we move from this point let me point out the things that inspired Nehemiah himself, and can be the means of our own inspiration.

First, Nehemiah was inspired by the condition of the city. When a person takes time to be aware of the conditions of the lives of those that are around God can use that to inspire our hearts to service.

Second, Nehemiah was inspired by his own prayers that he lifted up to God. So it is that if we are going to be inspired then we must have a strong prayer life that allows God to inspire us in those conversations.

Third, Nehemiah was inspired by the clear call of God upon his life. We too if we want to be inspired by God then we need to be listening for His call upon our lives. And the way that we will hear His call upon our lives is through our reading and studying of His holy word.

II. Second, let's notice that Nehemiah inspired the people to do the work of the Lord from his own initiation (vs 18)

When Nehemiah went before the people to challenge them to do the work he was able to greatly inspire them from the things God had already done and performed to make the work possible before they've even laid one stone on top of another one.

Nehemiah was initiated in this work long before he came to Jerusalem when God laid it on his heart and then when God moved the king to give him the permission and provision for the trip. And when he stood before the people he shared with them all the great things God had already done and this convinced both Nehemiah and the people that clearly because of these things already done by God we can be assured that He will see the work through.

So we too can be inspired and inspire others when we share with them all the great things God has already done to make it possible for us to move forward.

III. Third, let's notice that Nehemiah inspired the people to do the work of the Lord by his own investigation (vs 11-17)

Before Nehemiah challenged the people to the task he took time to investigate and inspect the ruins and destruction of the city walls with his own eyes. This personal investigation gave him an even more clearer vision of the problem and of what needed to be done.

Sadly for most of us we live in our own little world with a narrow focus, and we therefore either carelessly or purposely don't take time to personally investigate the condition of the lives of those that live around us. God has called us to open our eyes and see the sad conditions of the world around us, and be moved to bring our Lord Jesus Christ into our broken world.

IV. Fourth, let's notice that Nehemiah inspired the people to do the work of the Lord from his own inclusion (vs 17)

What I'm referring to with this point is that Nehemiah was able to inspire the people to do the work of rebuilding the wall because he himself would be right there beside them also doing the same work with them. We know this because of what he said to them. He said, "...come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem... (vs 17). When he said, "let us." he was including himself.

We will never inspire people to do the work of the Lord if we ourselves are not willing to do the work as well. Our involvement will encourage the involvement of others.

V. Fifth, let's notice that Nehemiah inspired the people to do the work of the Lord from their own information (vs 18-20)

Now in these verses for this particular point Nehemiah is primarily speaking to the enemies who are opposed to the Jewish people rebuilding the walls. However, you can count on it that with the same words that he is speaking to the enemies to chase them off he's also speaking to the Jews to inspire them.

What he tells the enemies is that the Jews were going to do this work because God called them to, and that this work could only be done by the Jewish people because the city of Jerusalem had been promised to them thousands of years before when God promised this land to Abraham and his descendants.

So what Nehemiah used to chase off their enemies also inspired the Jewish people to do the work because they were reminded that this land and this city was God's promise to them.

We too can inspire one another in the work of the Lord as we remember all the promises that our God has made already to us

Conclusion:

As the day of the Lord hastens on let us pray that like Nehemiah we will know inspiration and with that inspiration we will inspire others on in the work of the Lord.

Jesus Love You

Ralph Lee

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

SOJOURNERS CLASS - Room 417 - Mack Pope

YOUTH - Youth Annex Leader - Amanda Hodges

BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES - Room 417 -

Nicole Mauriocourt

RAINBOW KIDS - 3RD GRADE AND OLDER - Room 415 -

Kelly Scherger

Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

WORSHIP SERVICE *Multi-Purpose Building*

Leader-Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

YOUTH GROUP *Youth Annex*

Leader-Michelle Waitt

SWAMP KIDS *Nursery Hall*

Leader - Kim Malphrus

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sanctity of Life Sunday

Sunday, January 21st

Kick off of our Baby Bottle Drive!!!

SFCA Spirit Week

Monday, January 29th through February 2nd

SFCA Homecoming

Friday, February 2nd during the basketball game

SFCA Winter Break

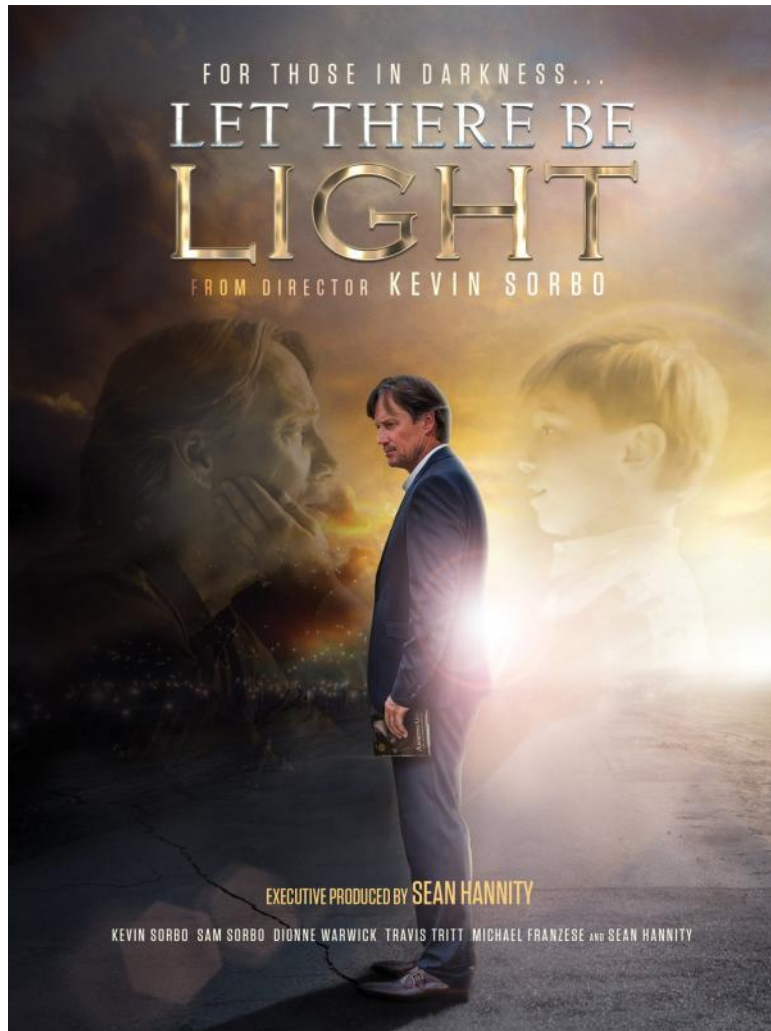
Friday, February 16th through the 19th

SFCA Basketball Tournament

Thursday, February 15th & Friday, February 16th

Shellem Cline Concert

Sunday, February 25th



MOVIE NIGHT!!

Showing: Let There Be Light

Sunday, January 21st

Concessions at 6:00 p.m.

Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.



Please bring finger foods to share!

Tea and Popcorn provided.

Come watch an amazing movie with us!

AGENDA

Business Meeting

Wednesday, February 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Deacons' Meeting

Monday, February 12th at 6:00 p.m.

Prayer Meeting

Every Tuesday morning at 9:00 a.m.

Grandmothers' Group

Monday, February 5th at 11:30 a.m.

All ladies welcome!

Swamp Kids

Every Wednesday night at 6:00 p.m.



Goal: \$3,000.00

To Date: \$2,575



<i>Monday</i>	<i>15th</i>	<i>Ann Nettles</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>20th</i>	<i>Evelyn Bradley</i>



Sunday, January
14th:
 Ralph & Tammy Lee



The church office will be closed,
 Monday, January 15th due to
 observation of the federal holiday,
 Martin Luther King Day.



Wednesday Night Supper

Meals served from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
every Wednesday night.

Team Timmy will be cooking Wednesday, January 17th.

\$5.00 per person or \$15.00 per family of four or more.

No meal deliveries.



Sunday Morning Breakfast

Breakfast will be served
from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00
a.m.

\$5.00 per person or
\$15.00 per family of
four or more.

GSBC Prayer Page

Church Leadership

Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Child Development
Ministries
Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Richard Waitt- Music Director
Deacons
Church Finances

Leadership

President / Vice President of
the United States of America

Bereavement

Unspoken

Hospitals

Allen Tindal, Junior

Surgery/Recovery

Debbie Hale
Chyleen Mock
David Sauls

Cancer/Treatments

Revel Crosby - 4 years old
(Leukemia)
Morgan Warren
Ken Lawler

Other Health Needs

Mary Kay Cade
Debbie Hale
Julia Rushing
Pinky Rushing
Amy Hannah
Kathy Breland
Grace Hetrick
Arthur Pierson
Clark Daring
Arlette Jones
Jennifer Wall
Lewis Hughes
Arthur Pearson
Pete Williamson

Nursing Centers

Bobby Mohn - Ridgeland Nursing Home
Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe
Erma Cooler - Ridgeland Nursing Home

Please Continue To Remember

Homebound

Shirley Malphrus *Tom Hinely*
Rose Boyles *Ann Blocker*
Judy Smith *Red & Helen Malphrus*
Vera Floyd *Thomas Cooler*
Barbara Mills *Marie Malphrus*
Kenny Smith
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-Louisiana
Andrea C. Daring-Charleston, SC
Schuyler Johnson - Basic Training Marines

Church Staff

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

Music Director: **Richard Waitt**

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@sfcaweb.org

Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	<i>\$1,831.00</i>	<i>\$ 5,012.49</i>	<i>\$-3,181.49</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$75.00</i>		
Designated Funds			Acct. Balances
<i>Lottie Moon</i>	<i>\$150.00</i>	*****	<i>\$2,575.00</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
Website: greatswampbaptistchurch.com
Church Office: (843) 726-3631