

*Great Swamp Baptist Church  
April 7, 2024*

# *Great Swamp Baptist Church*

Sunday Morning Worship

10:30 AM

**Announcements**

*Pastor Ralph Lee*

**Call to Worship**

**Invocation**

*Lloyd Freeman*

**Praise & Worship**

Pastoral and Offertory Prayer

*Pastor Ralph Lee*

Worship by Giving

Offertory Special

**Message**

*Pastor Ralph Lee*

**Invitation**

**Benediction Prayer**

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*Sunday Mornings*  
*Following The Song Service:*



Nursery



Teacher:  
Olivia Stanley

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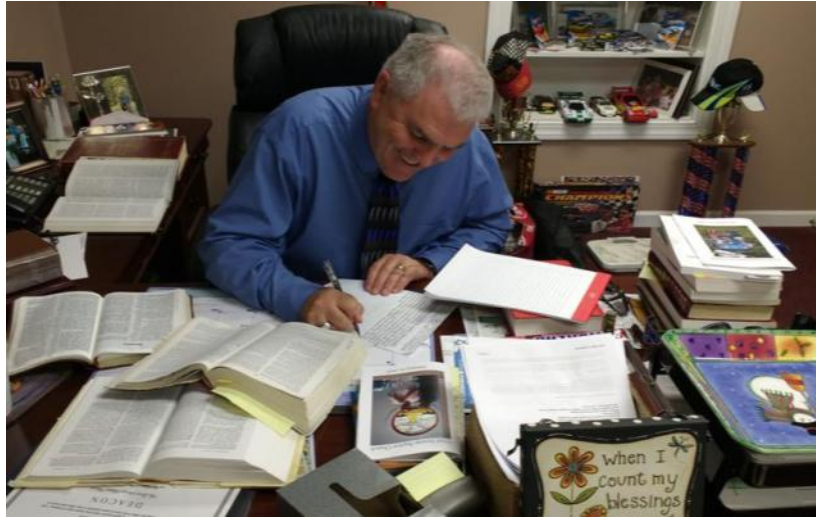
DEACON OF THE WEEK:

Lloyd Freeman



Phone: 803-943-6312

*From  
Pastor  
Ralph's  
Desk:*



## **The Churches Very First Sermon** **Acts 2:22-41**

### **Introduction:**

Jesus told His disciples that He would build His church and the gates of Hell would not overcome it. But the question is just exactly when did He do that?

The apostle Paul tells us about the experience of the birth and life of the church. "Just as a body, though one, has many parts, but all its many parts form one body, so it is with Christ. For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. Even so the body is not made up of one part but of many.

So when did this spiritual baptism take place that formed us into the body of Christ, the church? Well Dr. Luke tells us when this took place in the book of Acts. Actually in the chapter that we are using for this message. In the early verses of this chapter on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit of God came down and filled every believer there, at that time, baptizing them together as the body of Christ.

Now once the church was born on that day the apostle Peter stood up and preached the first message the church ever received once it came into existence. So for this message I want us to examine this very first message which Peter preached, and what we discover is that the primary theme of the message is the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**I. First, we discover that the church's very first sermon gives us the assurance of Jesus's resurrection (vs 22-35).**

In this sermon Peter gives us at least three different ways in which we can be assured without any doubt whatsoever that our blessed Lord Jesus Christ came up out of the grave .

**A. First Peter assures us that Jesus arose from the dead because of who He is and what He did (vs 22).**

In this particular verse we are told that Jesus was not just your ordinary run of the mill average human being. As a matter of fact this verse also tells us that Jesus also was not just some kind of extraordinary human being. As a matter of fact what this verse is telling us is that there's never been a human being like Him ever before, ever since, or will ever be. For He did what no man had or has ever done before. He did miracles, signs, and wonders, and though prophets of old were used by God to perform some miracles they were nothing in comparison to the ones Jesus did.

From changing the water into wine to resurrecting the dead and so many more in between we are left with no doubt whatsoever that this man Jesus is both fully man but also fully God. For no man could do these miracles unless they were God.

Therefore we can assuredly say that Jesus came up out of the grave because He was not just a man, but God as well and the grave can't hold God down period. So up out of the grave Jesus had to come.

**B. Second, Peter assures us that Jesus arose from the dead in order to fulfill prophesy (vs 24-35)**

One of the ways in which we have complete confidence in the accuracy of God's holy word is the enormous amount of prophecies written in God's word that have been fulfilled in great detail exactly as they were recorded.

In these particular verses Peter is referring to someone that King David was prophesying would resurrect out of the grave. Peter assures us that the someone couldn't be King David himself because David's grave was in their midst. However King David though not the one fulfilling the prophesy knew that one day a descendent of His would arise from the dead and ascend to the eternal throne of heaven and no one but Jesus could be that person. So Jesus had to resurrect to continue showing the accuracy of God's word and the fulfillment of David's prophecy.

C. Third, Peter assures us that Jesus arose from the dead because of the eyewitnesses (vs 32; I Cor 15:3-8)

As Peter preached on this day testifying to the assurance of Jesus resurrection I'm sure that a lot of people were skeptical though he had already shown that Jesus had to resurrect because of who He is, and because He had to fulfill the prophecies of King David. Therefore to erase any skepticism out of their mind he added one more clear evidence of Jesus's actual resurrection, eyewitnesses. And Peter himself, along with on top of the other apostles and disciples that were there, had all been eyewitnesses to the resurrection of Jesus. For they had seen Him alive several times since He had come up out of the grave.

The apostle Paul in his writings gives us a list of the many different sightings of Jesus in His resurrected body. At one point Paul tells us that there were more than 500 people at one time who saw the resurrected Lord. So let us stop doubting and instead start believing with all we have, because no doubt, up out of the grave He arose.

**II. Second, the church's very first sermon gives us the authentication of the resurrection (vs 36)**

So what we are talking about in this point is what does the fact of the resurrection authenticate? So there are truly many things that the resurrection authenticates for us and one of those things was discussed in the first point, and that's the accuracy of God's holy word which was verified by Jesus fulfilling the prophesy of King David. However the thing that I want us to clearly see that the resurrection authenticates is that Jesus is indeed and in fact exactly who He claimed to be all along.

As Peter said in the particular verse I am using for this point that Jesus who had been crucified was, "both Lord and Messiah." The crucifixion alone could not verify Jesus to be Lord and Messiah. The crucifixion is of no value apart from the resurrection. However because He was crucified and resurrected we can clearly say beyond no doubt whatsoever that Jesus is both Lord and Messiah.

So don't ever let Satan or this world convince us that Jesus was a good man, or a prime example to follow, or a super human being. No, our Jesus is so much more. He's both Lord and Messiah alone worthy of our total commitment to Him.

**III. Third, the church's very first sermon gives us the aim of the resurrection (vs 36-41)**

Of course Peter did wrap up his sermon, the very first one preached to the newly formed church of our Lord Jesus Christ. He closes it out with a very pointed and direct invitation for the audience that was listening that the way that they were going to experience the forgiveness of their sins, the salvation of their souls, and the reception of God's Holy spirit was by repenting and believing in the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ. Thus the aim of the resurrection is the saving of lost souls. There is no other way but the way of Calvary and the resurrection.

**Conclusion:**

Peter tells us in verse 41 that about 3,000 souls heard and accepted the message of the resurrected Lord Jesus Christ on that first day in the life of the church, and they were added to the church.

Today is your opportunity to be added to the life of the church of the risen, exalted Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Will you hear and accept that message today? There is no other way. Jesus and Jesus alone conquered the grave. Cry out to Him!

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee



**“Down by the Creek” Musical**  
**SFCA 1st thru 6th Graders**  
Friday, April 12th at 12:00 p.m.

**Achievement Testing**  
Monday, April 22nd  
*Dismiss M-F at 12:00 pm*

**Muffins for Mom Program**  
Friday, May 10th  
At 8:15 a.m. in MPB

**Junior and Senior Prom**  
Saturday, May 11th  
At TBD and Place TBD

**Baccalaureate**  
Wednesday, May 15th  
At 7:00 p.m. in Old Sanctuary

**Sports Banquet**  
Thursday, May 16th  
At 6:00 p.m. in MPB

**Kindergarten (K5)**  
**Graduation**  
Friday, May 17th  
At 7:00 p.m. in Gym

**SFCA High School**  
**Graduation**  
Saturday, May 18th  
At 4:00 p.m. in Gym

**Sixth Grade “Moving Up”**  
May 23rd at TBD

**SFCA Awards Day**  
Friday, May 24th at 8:15 a.m.  
*\*\*Dismiss afterwards for  
Summer Break\*\**



**IMPORTANT  
ANNOUNCEMENT**

**IMPORTANT**

*Please read*



A Celebration of Life service for Stephen Roberts will be held at the church today at 4:00 p.m. Please bring a light refreshment or hors d'oeuvres to share. Drinks will be provided by the church. Thank you.

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<i>Sunday</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Simeon Mobley</i>
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**We're Having a**  
**COOKOUT**

**Saturday, April 27th**  
**11:00 am to 3:00 pm**

We are looking for volunteers to help with the kitchen, clean up, and games. There is a sign up sheet on the back wall. Please take a moment and sign up. Thank you for your help!

# Grandmothers Group Spring Luncheon

Monday April 8th at 11:30 a.m.  
Located in the Youth House

Please bring a covered dish or a  
dessert to share.

All ladies are welcome, even if  
you aren't a grandmother. Bring  
a friend and be ready to have a  
good time with good people!  
Hope to see you there!

Any questions, please call  
Jennifer at 843-726-3631 or  
Debbie at 843-368-5436





# Operation Christmas Child



These are the items being collected for April or you can give a monetary donation and we will do the shopping for you.

## **Here is the list for the month of April:**



Ponytail Bands  
Stuffed Animals  
Toothbrushes



Ziploc Bags - Gallon & Quart  
Socks - Boys & Girls



Yo-yos, jump ropes, or any other toy  
Hair Barrettes, Scrunchies, &  
Headbands



Any questions, please ask Dorthie.  
Thank you.



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## **MOVIE NIGHT!!**

Showing: TBD

Sunday, April 21st

Concessions at 6:00 p.m.

Movie starts at 6:30 p.m.



**Please bring finger foods for your family  
and more to share with all!  
Tea and Popcorn provided.**

**Come watch an amazing movie with us!**



## Wednesday Night Supper

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

**Team Timmy will be cooking Wednesday, April 10th.**

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

No meal deliveries.

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## 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

*Family of Stephen Roberts*

## Unspoken

## Hospitals

## Surgery/Recovery

## Cancer/Treatments

*Revel Crosby - 4 years old*  
*(Leukemia)*  
*Ken Lawler*

## Other Health Needs

*Mary Kay Cade*  
*Julia Rushing*  
*Pinky Rushing*  
*Amy Hannah*  
*Kathy Breland*  
*Grace Hetrick*  
*Arthur Pearson*  
*Pete Williamson*  
*Latrelle Steedly*  
*Rodney Malphrus, Jr.*  
*Mark Mingledorff*  
*Bill Carter*  
*Chad Duncan*

## Nursing Centers

*Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at South Pointe*  
*Tommy & Erma Cooler - Ridgeland Nursing Home*  
*David Sauls - Morrell Nursing Center*  
*Doby Cleland - Life Care Center of HHI*  
*Shirley Malphrus - Resorts at Beaufort (D wing)*

## Please Continue To Remember

### Homebound

*Rose Boyles*  
*Judy Smith*  
*Vera Floyd*  
*Barbara Mills*  
*Kenny Smith*  
*Tom Hinely*  
*Ann Blocker*  
*Red & Helen Malphrus*  
*Diane Hannah*  
*Ann Long*  
*Tex Lowther*

### Pray For Our Military

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

## Church Staff

Pastor: **Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.** ..... [jehu27@gmail.com](mailto:jehu27@gmail.com)

Music Director: **Richard Waitt** .....

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

Pianist: **Michelle Waitt** ..... [waittfamily83@gmail.com](mailto:waittfamily83@gmail.com)

Administrative Assistant: **Jennifer Meador** ..... [greatswampbc@gmail.com](mailto:greatswampbc@gmail.com)  
843-726-3631

School Administrator: **Donna Carter** ..... [dcarter@sfcaweb.org](mailto:dcarter@sfcaweb.org)



### Greeters for Today:

Latrelle & Mike D.

### Next Sunday 4/14:

Courtney & Jeff

## Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$6,597.00	\$4,923.33	+\$1,673.67
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$50.00		
<b>Designated Funds</b>			<b>Acct. Balances</b>
<i>SMB</i>	\$175.00	*****	\$1,025.11
<i>WNS</i>	\$160.00	*****	\$343.99
<i>Annie Armstrong</i>	\$22.00	*****	\$919.00
<i>Swamp Kids</i>	\$29.00	*****	\$29.00



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