



*Great Swamp Baptist Church*  
*May 12, 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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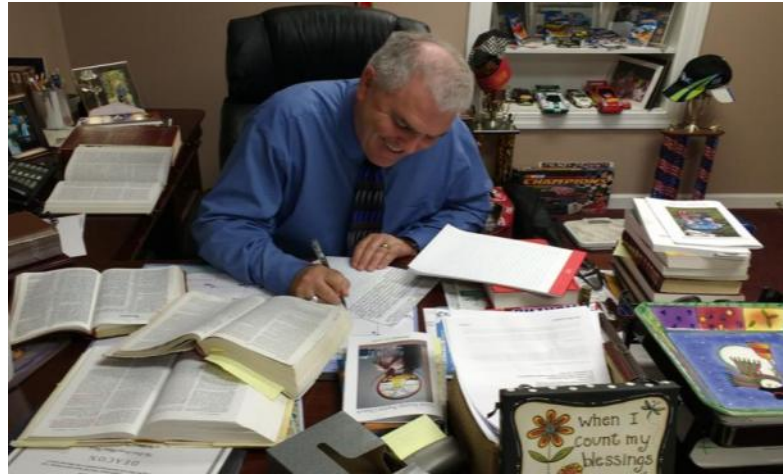
DEACON OF THE WEEK:

*Lloyd Freeman*



Phone: 803-943-6312

*From  
Pastor  
Ralph's  
Desk:*



## **Healing Troubled Hearts** **(John 14:1-14)**

### **Introduction:**

As we continue our series looking at what Jesus did, and is doing since His resurrection we've come to the place to consider His activities He's carrying on since He's returned to heaven. We've already looked at two of those activities. We first looked at His ministry of intercession. The second thing we examined is the simple fact that since His return to heaven He's been reigning and will continue to do so for all of eternity.

Today we are going to look at one of our favorite ministries that Jesus has been doing since returning to heaven and that is the ministry of healing troubled hearts. In the previous chapter Jesus shared some things with His disciples that indeed was disturbing news to them. It was so disturbing that their hearts became greatly troubled.

Realizing the intense hurt and pain that their hearts were experiencing from the news that He had shared with them Jesus told His disciples not to be troubled because He's going to carry out a ministry in heaven that will relieve their concerns and heal their broken and troubled hearts. So let's examine this ministry of Jesus.

**I. First, let's notice that in heaven Jesus is healing troubled hearts through His proclamation (vs 1, 8-11)**

In our introduction we discussed the fact that in the previous chapter of the one we are preaching from, Jesus revealed at least three disturbing facts that caused their hearts to be troubled. First, He spoke to them about His own soon departure. Second, He spoke of Judas's defection. Third, He spoke of Peter's denial.

Now those three revelations plus many more that He had revealed in other chapters as well would have caused the troubled hearts to wonder if there was anyone that they could trust to see them through these troubling times.

He wanted them to know that even though He was going to depart from them, they could still trust and count on Him to guide them through all their troubles they were about to experience in their present troubles and their future ones. For He proclaimed to them in this first verse that just as they trust God they could trust Him. Actually He was saying that they were to trust in Him the same as they trust in God.

Now Jesus could make such a bold statement because as He revealed in the second group of verses for this point that they could trust in Him as they do God because He is God. For He and the Father in heaven are one. For He told them that He and the Father were one and He proved it by all the miracles that He performed.

Therefore because Jesus and the Father are one we can trust that even though He's in heaven He's still able to see us through all the things that trouble our hearts. Put your trust in Him, He will see you through.

**II. Second, let's notice that in heaven Jesus is healing troubled hearts through His preparations (vs 2-6)**

So the obvious question is what is Jesus preparing? Well, He plainly tells us what He's preparing. He's preparing a place, verse 2.

Second, Jesus tells us where He's preparing a place. He tells us that it is in the Father's House. He specifically says, "My Father's house..." So what He's letting us know that this place He's preparing is in the exact same location as His Heavenly Father. Which means that this is His home. It's His eternal home. It's the one that He left to come to earth to bring us eternal salvation. Through His ascension He returned back to His Father's house and thus His home.

Often times when a family begins to grow by adding new family members they then must add on to the size of their house to accommodate their growth. Now this might not be the perfect illustration of what Jesus is doing but it gives us the idea of what He's doing. He's preparing His Father's house to accommodate all of the new family members that are being added to the family of God.

Third, Jesus also tells us who it is that He's preparing the place for. When He was speaking about it He said, "...I am going to prepare a place for you." (vs 2). He repeats it again in the next verse. So that clearly lets us know whom it is that He's preparing this place for. For He was speaking directly to His disciples at that time.

Therefore this means that the place that He's preparing is specifically and only for those that become His disciples and followers.

Now whenever we invite someone to come to our house and they've never been there before we must give them the instructions on how to find the way, or as in today's world give them our address and let the GPS show them the way. So it is that Jesus shows us in these verse how it is that we become a disciple of His and the instructions of how we get to this place He's preparing.

Now a person needs to pay close attention to these instructions because they are revealing to us the absolute only means of becoming a disciple of Jesus Christ and having an absolute guarantee of a room in the Father's house which He's preparing. "Thomas said to Him, 'Lord, we don't know where you are going, so how can we know the way?' Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me.'" (vs 5, 6).

So Jesus is now healing troubled hearts by letting us know that up in heaven in His Father's house He is presently preparing a place, a room for all of those that come to believe that He Himself alone is the Messiah, Savior, Lord, Son of God, and mediator between heaven and earth, between God and humanity, and willing surrender to Him. When that happens you can know that one day soon you will leave this world of sorrow and trouble for a home in the Father's house free of all that troubles our hearts in this world. All our present worries and troubles are temporary but we will one day trade them for eternal joy in our God's presence. Amen.

**III. Third, let's notice that in heaven Jesus is healing troubled hearts through His promise and His presence (vs 3; 2 Cor 5:6-8; 1 Cor 15:50-57; 1 Thess 4:13-18)**

Jesus would never prepare a place for His disciple to come, and dwell with Him if He didn't plan on bringing them there. Thus He made a definite, absolute promise that He indeed and in fact would come back to get His people to bring them to the place that He's preparing for them so that they could be with Him, and that's what heaven is all about spending eternity with Jesus.

I have a group of other passages of scripture to verify that Jesus has made a promise to come and get us to bring us back to be with Him. The assurance of that promise would come in a few days when He Himself would resurrect up out of the grave proving that death doesn't have a hold on Him nor any of His followers whom He will powerfully resurrect just as He did.

"Therefore we are always confident and know that as long as we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord. For we live by faith, not by sight. We are confident, I say, and would prefer to be away from the body and at home with the Lord." (2 Cor 5:6-8). So Paul is letting us know that when we die Jesus takes our soul from the body and brings it home to be with Him. Praise be to His Holy Name.

However Jesus will also return one day to also resurrect our bodies, and change them into glorified bodies and resurrect them to the air where He will be and reunite them with their own spirits that are already there. So we can dwell forever with Him and each other in that prepared places He's working on right now.

"I declare to you, brothers and sisters, that flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God, nor does the perishable inherit the imperishable. Listen, I tell you a mystery: We will not all sleep, but we will all be changed — in a flash, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For the perishable must clothe itself with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality. When the perishable has been clothed with the imperishable, and the mortal with immortality, then the saying that is written will come true: "Death has been swallowed up in victory." "Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?" The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ." (1 Cor 15:50-57).

“Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. According to the Lord’s word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.” (1 Thess 4:13-18). Oh, what a promise we have to look forward to, and what a presence we have to spend eternity with. Amen.

**Conclusion:**

As we’ve already noted in our second point, Jesus has revealed clearly the way to that place He’s preparing in the Father’s house. So if you want to have your troubled heart healed then make sure that you have accepted the one and only way provided through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Jesus Loves You,

Ralph Lee



The church office will be closed,  
Monday, May 27th due to  
observation of the federal holiday,  
Memorial Day.





<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>15<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Amy Mobley</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>17<sup>th</sup></i>	<i>Chesney Thames</i>

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	<p><b><u>Thursday, May 16th:</u></b>          Greg &amp; Nicole          Mauriocourt</p>
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There will be **NO** SwampKids on  
 May 15 due to SFCA Senior Class  
 Baccalaureate.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Saturday - May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024**  
**COME JOIN US!!**

**Savannah River Baptist Association WMU/WOM**  
**Spring 2024 Meeting**  
**Okatee Baptist Church**  
**Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup>**  
**10:00 am til 12:00 noon**  
**Lunch will follow - 12:00 noon til 1:00 pm.**

This will be our Annual Training and Board Recruitment Meeting, with Special Guests from our State WMU Board (Jess Archer and Cindy Skelton), as well as several other speakers from around our area.

We will have special missions presentations by Ms. Sheila Roemling with *Fresh Start, Healing Hearts* (our local human trafficking assistance organization), and our SRBA WMU Associate Director Vicki Farrow, representing the Dru Graves Ministry.

Since we have not had an "official" food pantry item collection event this year, those churches that have not had the opportunity to support our local church food pantries are encouraged to bring items to be sorted and distributed to these churches. If you are interested in starting a pantry at your own church, this is the time to discuss this with us and work towards forming your own pantry that we as an association can help support.

**\*\* Lunch will be catered for this event. \*\***

**Please RSVP to Cindy Rhodes at (843) 247-6364 OR by email [cindyrhodes@savannahriverbaptist.org](mailto:cindyrhodes@savannahriverbaptist.org)**

**Thanks and we look forward to seeing you there!!**

**Beth Bonds, Director, SRBA WMU**  
**(832) 334-2563 email: [bethie59@protonmail.com](mailto:bethie59@protonmail.com)**



# 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 May:**



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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Ladies that are attending the WMU Spring Meeting at Okatie Baptist and need a ride, meet at our church at 9:15 am.

Any questions, contact Kim Malphrus at 843-540-0365.



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

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

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

**Sixth Grade "Moving Up"**  
May 23rd  
At 8:30 a.m. in MPB

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

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

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**Greeters for Today:**  
Courtney & Jeff

**Next Sunday 5/12:**  
Kim & Richard

# MIGRANT MINISTRY

## DRU GRAVES HISPANIC FARMWORKERS MISSION!

### ITEMS NEEDED!

**Health kits contain:** a bath towel, washcloth, comb or brush, soap, toothpaste, and a toothbrush.

**Food items, etc:** Masa flour, rice, canned fruit cocktail, dried pinto beans, and other Hispanic food products; bottled water, liquid clothes detergent, shampoo, deodorant, or any health care product along with female products, and laundry baskets to pack them in. Also, long-sleeve men's shirts are needed.

Items are needed by May 30th, delivered to Savannah River Baptist Association

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THANK  
YOU!

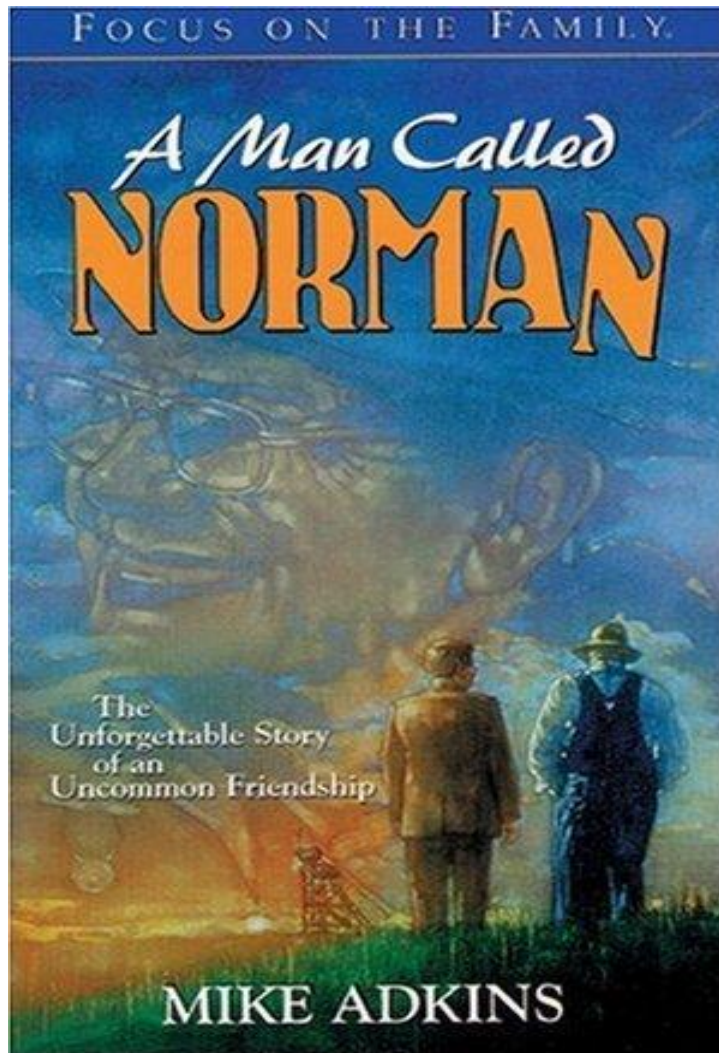
I would like to thank the church for praying for me during my knee surgery and recovery.

Your prayers were felt and appreciated.

Please continue to pray for a good recovery.

In Christ,  
Mack Pope





## **MOVIE NIGHT!!**

Showing: A Man Called Norman

Sunday, May 19th

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!**

# Baccalaureate Class of 2024

The church will be having its annual baccalaureate service on Wednesday, May 15th at 7:00 p.m. We need food for the event. If you are able, please bring a shareable finger food (for example: chicken nuggets, mini sandwiches, chips and dip, lemon bars, brownies, peanut butter balls, chewies, etc.)

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## Graduation Recognition Service Sunday, May 19th

### *\*During Regular Service\**

If you want to recognize a graduate, please fill out one of the forms on the table in the foyer and return it to the church office or contact Jennifer at 843-726-3631 and give her the information regarding the graduate to be recognized. This information is needed **NO LATER THAN** Thursday, May 16th at 12:00 p.m.

# Sunday School Classes

**@ 9:15am**

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

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

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**VISIONARIES CLASS - Building 3, Old Social Hall**

*Leader - Greg Mariocourt*

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

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

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

**Nicole Mauriocourt**

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

**Kelly Scherger**

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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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**SWAMP KIDS** *Nursery Hall*

*Leader - Kim Malphrus*

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## Wednesday Night Supper

Meals served from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.  
every Wednesday night.  
\$5.00 per person or \$15.00 per family of four or more.

**\*\*NO SUPPER WED. MAY 15TH DUE TO  
BACCALAUREATE**

**\*LAST SUPPER - Wed. May 22nd\***

**\*LAST BREAKFAST - Sun. May 19th\***

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

**IMPORTANT  
ANNOUNCEMENT**

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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

## Unspoken

## Hospitals

## Surgery/Recovery

*Saylor Olivas*  
*Mike Wall*  
*Mack Pope*  
*Gary Breland - stomach surgery*  
*and kidney stones*  
*Ann Long - Hip surgery*

## Cancer/Treatments

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

## Other Health Needs

*Mary Kay Cade*  
*Julia Rushing*  
*Pinky Rushing*  
*Amy Hannah*  
*Kathy Breland*  
*Grace Hetrick*  
*Arthur Pearson*  
*Pete Williamson*  
*Rodney Malphrus, Jr.*  
*Mark Mingledorff*  
*Bill Carter*  
*Mike Wall*  
*Sage Lanier (2 week old baby*  
*with seizures)*

## 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)*  
*Ernestine Steedly - NHC in Lexington*

## 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 -*  
*Pinehurst, NC.*  
*Michael Sottile - Ret.*  
*Tristan Blanton - Louisiana*  
*Andrea C. Daring - Charleston, SC*

## 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** .....greatswampbc@gmail.com  
843-726-3631

School Administrator: **Donna Carter** .....dcarter@sfcaweb.org

## Stewardship

Tithes	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus/Deficit + / -
	\$4,735.00	\$4,923.33	\$-188.33
<i>Online Offerings</i>	\$243.90		
<b>Designated Funds</b>			<b>Acct. Balances</b>
<i>SMB</i>	\$95.00	*****	\$1046.78
<i>WNS</i>	\$213.00	*****	\$931.72
<i>Annie Armstrong</i>	\$20.00	*****	\$1,247.00
<i>Operation Christmas Child</i>	\$50.00	*****	\$201.00
<i>Gleaners Sunday School Class</i>	\$55.00	*****	\$1380.06



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