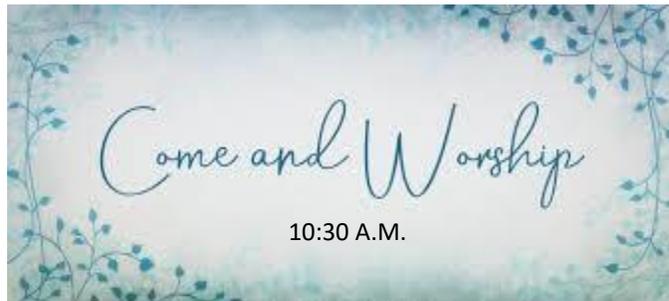




Great Swamp Baptist Church
July 6, 2025

**Great
Swamp
Baptist
Church**



Announcements	<i>Pastor Ralph Lee</i>
Call to Worship	
Invocation	
Pastoral and Offertory Prayer	<i>Lloyd Freeman</i>
Worship by Giving	
Offertory Special	
Message	<i>Pastor Ralph Lee</i>
Invitation	
Benediction Prayer	

A major computer issue this week has affected our ability to include complete details and graphics this week. All announcements will be updated next week. Please feel free to call the office for questions, and check out the bulletin board on the back wall. Thank you for your patience.

Church Staff

- Pastor: Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.....jehu27@gmail.com*
- Sunday School Director: Mike Davis.....greatswampbc@gmail.com*
- Administrative Assistant: June Bess.....greatswampbc@gmail.com*
- School Administrator: Donna Carter.....dcarter@sfcaweb.org*

Sunday Mornings
Following The Song Service:



Nursery Workers

For Today:
Tammy & Juliette

Next Sunday 07/13



In the school
office building

Teacher:
Olivia Stanley



Greeters for Today:
Courtney & Betty

Next Sunday 07/13
Kim & Richard

DEACON OF THE

Lloyd Freeman

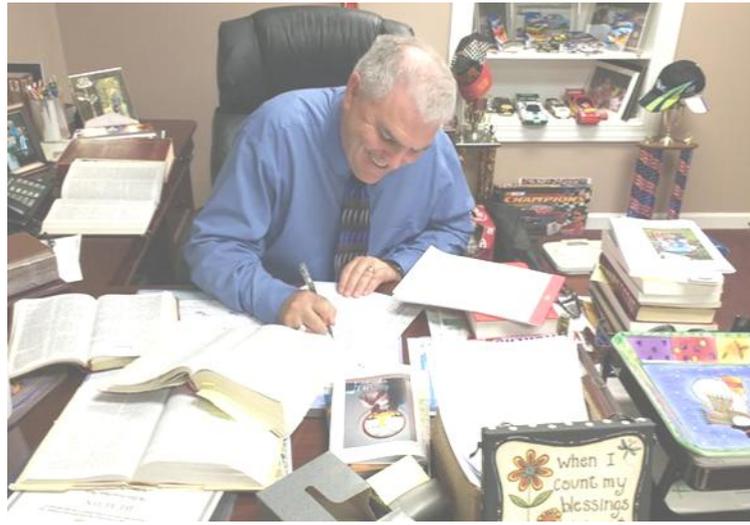


Phone: (803) 943-6312

**NEXT WEEK'S
DEACON:
Chuck Scoggins**



*From
the
Pastor's
desk:*



The Signs Say, "Look Up"

Introduction: All around the Ridgeland area signs have started appearing that say "coming soon", a new housing development at such-and-such location. However some of these signs have already been changing from "coming soon" to the prices of the homes you can "purchase now". In similar fashion, Jesus' disciples asked Him, "What will be the signs of your coming and of the end of the age?" (Matt. 24:3) Then Jesus began to tell them of the "coming soon" signs which, however are changing from "coming soon" to signs telling us to look up for the signs are fulfilled, the houses have been built and are available to purchase and ready to move in! Jesus is poised at the door of glory, ready to step through to get His bride the Church.

In Luke's Gospel Jesus said, "when these signs begin to take place, stand up and lift up you heads, because your redemption is drawing near." (Luke 21:28) Therefore it behooves us to take notice of three signs, and as we do we must at the same time look up.

I. The first sign that tells us to look up is the signs of the rebirth of Israel. Isaiah 66:7-11,

Ezekiel 36:22-28, Romans 11:25-27, Acts 15:12-18.

Every time that Israel would turn their back to God, He would punish them most often by sending some foreign nation to conquer them and take them away from their promise to lands far away. The final time this happened was in 70 AD, when Rome came to the Promise Land of Israel and conquered it and scattered the nation all throughout its vast empire. Which Jesus prophesied would happen because of their rejection of Him as their Messiah.

However, God doesn't break His promise to anyone, including Israel. For He promised that they would become a nation again. Only this time He would make sure that they would become a transformed nation. One that's not only a nation gathered back into their promise, but one that's transformed inwardly with hearts bent to do only what God wants them to do.

In Romans 11:25-27 we discover that God's not through with Israel. Once God is through with saving the number of Gentiles during this age of Grace, He will then, once again turn to Israel and will save all of the nation at that time. In similar fashion, James speaks up at the council of Jerusalem, a gathering to discuss the matters of the influx of the Gentiles into the church, whom Paul said did not need to keep the Old Testament Jewish custom of circumcision, as part of the means to be saved. He said that at this time God is choosing a people from among the Gentiles, but then he said. "After this I will return and rebuild David's fallen tent. Its ruin I will rebuild and I will restore it". (Acts 15:16) Of course James was quoting out of the Old Testament what God said He would eventually do to rebuild and restore the nation of Israel.

The Old Testament prophets are filled with the prophecies of the nation's return in great detail. I will only read and mention about those details from two passages which are a part of a larger group revealing the rebuilding and restoring of the nation. Particularly is it strong in the

Book of Ezekiel, chapters 36-39. For our message Ezekiel 36:22-28 very clearly declares that God will bring Israel back from all the places where they've been scattered, back to the land God has promised to them.

Isaiah 66:7-11 tell us that God is going to bring the nation back to the promised land from where they've been scattered and in one day's time they will be reborn as a nation once again. Well by the hand of our Sovereign God, on May 14, 1948, in a day's time, became a nation again. Nothing short of an amazing miracle! For never in human history has a nation been conquered, exiled, scattered throughout the world, been able to return to the homeland and become a nation again. And what more amazing about it is that everywhere they were scattered to, they were persecuted, killed, nearly annihilated by Hitler. Yet through it all they survived to become a nation and have done so against continued overwhelming odds.

Now it's important that we realize that what we read out of Ezekiel has only been partially fulfilled. As a nation they have yet to acknowledge that Jesus is the Messiah. This is God's primary purpose for the nation to be saved through Christ and get a new heart and the Spirit of God in them. This will happen at the end of the tribulation, when they will all see Jesus that they pierced and will, as a whole nation, believe and be saved. It's all coming together, so look up, clearly Jesus is coming!

II. The signs that tells us to look up is the sin of world events that are taking place. Matt 24:4-8.

The events mentioned in these verses are not new events. They are events that have happened nearly since God created the first human beings. So then the question is, how then does this sign classify as a sign indicating the coming of our Blessed Lord?

Well the answer to that question is, first of all the ability for us all to hear and know about these world events going on. Second, the amount of these events is far

More than what we typically hear about. Third, the rapid occurrence of these events to one another, they are one right after another. Finally, the places where some of the World events are happening and in places where you don't expect them to be going on.

These world events are happening today, just as I wrote about in the preceding paragraph. Natural disasters are now a daily occurrence and are happening in places where you least expect it to. The classic example of that was the path that hurricane Helene took and the destruction that it left, was in a place which typically is where people run to, to escape from hurricanes.

Also, the wars and rumors of wars, are a daily threat we are hearing about from all over the globe. And it's important that we understand it says not only wars, but rumors of wars as well. So many of the wars we are hearing about are at the moment, only rumors of them. But clearly there are rumors that are brewing about because they are very real threats.

Now the good news for the child of God today is that Jesus said; "All these things are the beginning of birth pangs." (vs 8) The church will only witness the beginning of the birth pangs, We will not be here when birth pangs give way to the birth of God's judgement that will take place after the rapture of the church, during the seven year period of the tribulation, which is described in the book of Revelation, chapter six through nineteen.

Church, are you looking up yet?

III. The third sign that tells us to look up is the sign of Deception in the Church. Matt. 24:4-5, 1Tim.4:1-2, 2Tim.4:1-5, 1John 2:18.

Jesus is warning us that there will be those who come along and , in a deceiving way, will seek to convince people that they are the Messiah. The Apostle John warns that even in his day that the spirit of the Antichrist was already at work. "*Dear children, this is the last hour; and*

you have heard that the Antichrist is coming, even now many antichrists have come. This is how we know it is the last hour.”(1John 2:18)

So what’s being emphasized here is that the deception started at the beginning of the life of the church and has all along promoted the spirit of the antichrist. Sadly, however Jesus is pointing out that the deception has not gone away, but tragically has increased and is moving about at a rate that makes it much easier for Satan to lead people astray, within the church; convincing them that someone other than Jesus, is the real Messiah. Ultimately this deception will make it possible for the real antichrist to convince a large portion of the world, during the tribulation, that he is the Messiah.

The Apostle Paul warned us this deception, that it would take place, sadly in the pulpits of our churches all around the globe. *“The Spirit clearly says that in later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits, and things taught by demons. Such teachings come through hypocritical liars, whose consciences have been seared, as with a hot iron.”(1Tim.4:1-2)*

“For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.” (2Tim.4:3-4)

So it is today, that in churches all across our land, preachers are preaching only what is non-offensive. We’ve gotten away from preaching the truth. Instead of preaching against sin, we are endorsing it. We no longer call for repentance, obedience, and faithfulness to God’s Word, rather we are telling everybody, you’re alright just as you are. We no longer preach a focus on the treasure of heaven, but rather the properties of earth. We have

Become churches of comfort, convenience, easiness and entertainment. And all of this is leading to a deception that will help enable the antichrist.

May our beloved Lord keep us in truth and keep our eyes heavenward.

Conclusion: So let me ask you a question, in conclusion; Are you ready? That's the question that really matters. Time is of the essence and in this situation, the word that comes to mind is "urgency". If you are not ready or are not sure, then make sure today, while you have just this moment for sure, to do so. Cry out to Jesus in repentance and faith. Surrender it all to Him and He will save you.

Jesus Loves You!
Ralph Lee

Senior Celebration

FOOD FUN FELLOWSHIP MUSIC

GOD & COUNTRY

***Thursday, August 7th
10:00am***

Port Royal Baptist Church

Tickets: \$10 Deadline: July 24th

Sign-up sheet on bulletin board

Call the association office at (843) 726-8294

Baptism Service

**Next Sunday, July 13th, in our historic
sanctuary**

Nadine Smoak and Steve Pounder

Anyone who is ready to be baptized, please
contact Pastor Ralph or the church office this
week.



Great Swamp is hosting Men's Ministry

July 17th at 7PM

A meal, fellowship with brothers, and a guest speaker.

Men please invite and bring someone with you!



Movie Night is back

Sunday, July 20th at

7pm in the Multi-purpose Building.

We will be showing ***“Running the Bases”***.

Free tea and pop-corn, bring your favorite snacks and friends!!

More movie details to come soon!

Take some tickets to pass share with friends.

Family movie night is every third Sunday of the month.





Operation Christmas Child

A PROJECT of SAMARITAN'S PURSE

Christmas in July!

School supplies are the donations needed this month- and they are on sale!



Here's what's needed:

Pencils, and sharpeners, erasers, scissors, pens, crayons-24ct and 12ct, construction paper, spiral notebooks, glue sticks



For any questions ask Dorthie- (843)258-0573



**Wednesday July 9th,
at 7:00 PM**

**Church
BUSINESS
Meeting**

Deacon
Meeting

**Monday, July 14th
At 6 PM**



Pastor Ralph and Tammy Lee have served 18 years at Great Swamp Baptist Church

We have all been saddened since he announced his retirement several weeks ago, but we want to show our love and appreciation for them both.

Following the last sermon he is scheduled to preach as pastor of GSBC, July 27th, we're having a luncheon immediately following that worship service. Meat and drinks will be provided, please bring sides and desserts to share.

PICTURES are needed for a slide presentation. Looking for pics of events, trips, family, school, church, all of it. You can email, or bring them to the Church office. Also a love offering will be collected for them.





Independence Day Luncheon

Monday, July 7th at 11:30 AM
in the Multi-purpose building.



Join us for a wonderful lunch, praising the Lord and fellowship

Please bring soups, sandwiches, or desserts.



IMPORTANT

Please read



**Deacon
Election**

Great Swamp Baptist Church

is looking to select one new deacon this year. Those who wish their name to be considered for this position must be a faithful member, in good standing, and above all, meets the Biblical qualifications found in First Timothy 3:8-13. If you feel that this is not what God is calling you to do then please contact the church office to remove your name from consideration. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. The vote will be held the second week of August.



<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>1st</i>	<i>Pat Bryan</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>5th</i>	<i>Vandy Amason</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>6th</i>	<i>Truett Vaigneur</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>7th</i>	<i>Jane Hodges</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>12th</i>	<i>Robert O'Dell</i>
<i>Sunday</i>	<i>13th</i>	<i>Silas Carter</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>15th</i>	<i>Richard Roberts</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>23rd</i>	<i>Katie Mock</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>23rd</i>	<i>Bobby Smith</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>26th</i>	<i>Red Malphrus</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>29th</i>	<i>Nicole Cole</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>30th</i>	<i>Josh Carter</i>



Monday, July 7th, 10AM to 2:30 PM
 Beaufort County Administration
 Building
 100 Ribaut Rd., Beaufort, SC 29902

Sunday School Classes

Starting at 9:15 am

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

GLEANERS CLASS: *Room 411 -- Leader: Darlene Bollack*

VISIONARIES CLASS: *Room 413 - Leader: Greg Mariocourt*

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

YOUTH: *Youth Annex*

BLUE ANGELS - 1ST & 2ND GRADES:
Room 412 -- Leader: Nicole Mauriocourt

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

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Tuesday Morning Prayer Meeting

Breakfast begins at 9:00 am
Followed by the Prayer Meeting
Located in the Multi-Purpose Building

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Wednesday Night Services

@ 7:00 pm

WORSHIP SERVICE *Multi-Purpose Building*
Leader - Pastor Ralph Lee, Jr.

YOUTH GROUP *Youth Annex*

SWAMP KIDS *Nursery Hall*
Leader – Kim Malphrus

GSBC Prayer Page

PRAISE AND GRATITUDE TO OUR GOD FOR THE ANSWERS TO PRAYER WE HAVE ALREADY RECEIVED, AND THE CONFIDENCE THAT WE WILL RECEIVE HIS GRACE AND MERCY!

Church Leadership

Sunday School
SFCA-Donna Carter
Ralph Lee, Jr. - Pastor
Deacons
Pastor Search Team
Youth Program
Worship team

Leadership

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

Bereavement

Family of Randy Nettles

Other needs

Interim Pastor
New permanent Pastor

Nursing Centers

*Byron Vaigneur - Legacy at
South Pointe*

*Tommy Cooler - Ridgeland
Nursing Home*

*David Sauls - Florence Place
Assisted Living*

*Doby Cleland - Life Care
Center of HHI*

Homebound

Rose Boyles
Judy Smith
Barbara Mills
Kenny Smith
Shirley Malphrus
Tom Hinely
Red & Helen Malphrus
Diane Hannah
Ann Long
Donald Malphrus

Health Needs

Amy Hannah
Arthur Pearson
Earl Dean Pope
Rachel Mixon
Beth Owens
Darlene Bollack
Bill Carter
Clark Lawson
Red Malphrus

Cancer

Ralph Lee
Revel Crosby - 4 yrs old
Ken Lawler
Rachel Vaughn
Ella Gourlay - 10 yrs old
Paul Holmes
Randy Floyd

In Hospital

Pray For Our Military

All Leaders of each Branch of our military

Sgt. Jared Blanton - Deployed

Matthew Mills, USMC- Okinawa, Japan

Jericho Malphrus, Sp. Agent/USAF Pinehurst, NC.

Andrea C. Daring - Charleston, SC

Schuyler Johnson - USMC Basic Training

Prayer is the greatest need in our lives as Christians today. The greatest problem solver is a repentant heart and an asking child before our Heavenly Father. Less of me and more of God is a good stance in praying.

E.L. Ambrose

Traveling out of town for the week-end?
 Don't miss a minute of Sunday morning at
 Great Swamp Baptist Church - Join us by
 LIVESTREAM on our YouTube channel. You
 even watch services from Sundays past!



can

[@greatswampbaptistchurch8998](#)

Or on FaceBook at [Great-Swamp Baptist Church](#)

BUT ... It would be best of all to see you here!

Stewardship

TITHES	This Week	Weekly Budget	Surplus / Deficit
	<i>\$3668.00</i>	<i>\$5,172.63</i>	<i>\$1504.63</i>
<i>Online Offerings</i>	<i>\$50.00</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