



<http://www.smithgrove.org>

Sunday School 10:00 AM  
Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
Evening Worship 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM

- NURSERY PROVIDED -

Radio Ministry  
Saturday 8:00 AM  
WPET Radio (950 AM)

2707 Sandy Ridge Road  
Colfax, NC 27235

**Dr. Charles (Chuck) Peters, Pastor**  
Home: (336) 996-8563  
Cell: (336) 812-1169

### PROVERBS 25:13

As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him, for he refresheth the soul of his masters . . .

**VOLUME 25**

**December 2008**

**ISSUE 297**



*Merry Christmas!!*

*The Messenger*



*December*



### **“His Unspeakable Gift”**

“Thanks be unto God for **his unspeakable gift.**”  
(II Corinthians 9:15)

Christmas is a time of giving. Though all earthly gifts are not equal in value, they nevertheless, only complement this life. They all will furthermore perish with time. God’s gift, however, is valueless. It is in fact, “unspeakable”!

Someone wrote, “His gift is unspeakable because the Giver is incredible. His love is unfathomable, His sufferings were unutterable and the gift is unspeakable because it is inexpressible.”

Paul was thankful for the generosity of the Corinthians. He could, no doubt, measure the quantity of their gifts. They could be counted and measured in terms of quality and quantity. The gift of Jesus Christ to man is unspeakable! That gift is unspeakable in its **direction**. The focus of the gospel is to sinners. “For the Son of man is come to seek and to save **that which was lost.**” (Luke 19:10) The gift is unspeakable in its **nature**. “For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is **eternal life** through Jesus Christ our Lord.” (Romans 6:23)

The gift is unspeakable in its **quality**. “For God so loved the world that he gave **his only begotten Son**, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” (John.3:16) God gave His very best!

Those gifts found under the tree will soon perish. If you personally know the One who died upon the cross, you possess a gift both unspeakable and eternal. Do you know Him as personal Savior? If so, you can also say, “Thanks be unto God for his **unspeakable gift.**” – II Corinthians 9:14

*Pastor Chuck Peters*

## December Birthdays.....

03 Sheila Payne	16 Jan Wilson	
04 Chasity Ramey	17 Jessica Holt	
05 Willis George	19 Neva Long	Marvin Donnell
05 Elaine Lowe	19 Todd Tucker	Chris Freeman
10 Reva Holt	20 Andrew Harrison Smith	Dylon Freeman
11 Rhoney Wilson	23 Bernice Johnson	Craig Pearman
12 Lydia Beeson	30 Barbara Bowden	Jennifer Smith
12 Tori Heath	31 John David Payne	Mark Tilley
16 Gale Tester	Andrew Donnell	Lonnie Tucker 

## January Birthdays.....

02 Adrian Barham	13 Harvey Pitts	30 Austin Russell
02 Mike Cashion	17 Amy Wilkey	30 Allen Tate
03 Jerry Crump	17 Doris Cochran	30 Betty Bame
03 Bessie Kendrick	20 Stephanie Hutton	Terry Dillon
04 Marilyn Alston	22 Rachelle Hayes	Kathy Flynt
04 Keith Crouch	23 Matthew Norman	Suzanne Kirk
04 Kevin Crouch	27 Cheryl Cashion	Raymond McDaniel
05 William Holt	27 Dolly Westmoreland	Wanda Stafford
06 Shirley Ingold	29 Brianna Clemmons	Don Stephens
10 Gary Hendrix	29 Donna Key	Stephen Vaughn
12 Becky McCollum	29 Louise Byrd	

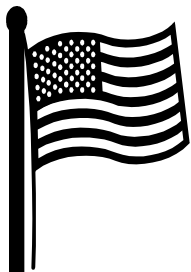
## December Anniversaries

Cleo & Reva Holt  
 Cordell & Eloise McCollum  
 Waynard & Carol Nuckles  
 Rubert & Dolly Westmoreland



## In the Service of our Country

Matthew Bennett (new recruit in Jacksonville, SC)  
 A1C William Holt, US Air Force  
 Sheppard AFB, TX  
 Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Maine, US Army  
 [stationed in Korea]  
 Corporal Mel Wright, US Marines, California  
 (Nephews of Clarence Redmon)



## The Stover Family in Peru

Greetings from beautiful Arequipa, Peru, South America! It is hard to believe that we have been here now for more than 3 months. The time just seems to fly as we continue to get adjusted to cultural changes, language changes, and changes of just living outside the United States. Thank you to each of you who have personally prayed for us. We can't tell you what a blessing that is. Thank you also for your sacrificial giving in the midst of tough economic times. Your giving allows us to stay and continue the work that the Lord has called us to do. Thank you for being our "lifeline" so that we can continue to share the "new life" of the gospel here in Peru.

### Language Progress:

We thank the Lord for the help He has given us with the language. We have language classes 5 days a week for 4 hours a day. Both my wife and I hope to be finished with the 5 language school books by the beginning of the year, Lord willing. Probably the most important part of language learning, however, is simply talking with the people. We have both gotten to the point where we can carry on a pretty good conversation. Most importantly, I want to be able to preach the Word of God. Acts 22:2 says, "And when they heard that he spoke in the Hebrew tongue to them, they kept the more silence... When a person hears the Word of God preached in his own language, it is a very powerful tool! Please pray that the Lord would help me to learn Spanish well so that I can effectively teach the truths of God's Word.

### Family:

The Lord continues to keep us healthy and strong. Josiah is getting bigger every day and is continually exploring everything. His recent adventures have included eating dirt from the flower pot, shutting his fingers in various drawers, and learning to rock hard enough to scoot his crib across the room. (So far he has had near collisions with both the rocking chair and the changing table.) His favorite words are "no" and "Mmmm!" We also would like to announce that our family will be adding another member – another boy – in March. We are so thankful to the Lord for this blessing. Please pray for Sara and the baby.

### Bible Study:

On Friday evenings we have a Bible study group in our home. I have the privilege to teach a short lesson and lead in a question and answer time. Most of the people who come are members of the Faith Baptist Church (where we attend), but our goal is to also get people who are not saved to come. Please pray that the Lord would bless these meetings and use us in a mighty way.

Thank you for your prayers on our behalf. You can stay up to date with all that is going on here in Peru through our blog:

[www.stovers2peru.blogspot.com](http://www.stovers2peru.blogspot.com). We appreciate each one of you!

Serving the King of Kings in Peru,

Robert, Sara, & Josiah Stover

# REMEMBER IN PRAYER

## Smith Grove Seniors

Inez Alley	Pat George	J. D. Shields
Louise Byrd	Rev. M. W. Laramore	Raynelle Shields
Wilma Farrington	Shirley Crouch	Louise Smith
June Freeman	Bud McCurdy	Clarence Tucker
Ernest Fulk	Mary McCurdy	Hettie Mae Westmoreland

## Others in Need of Prayer

(In alphabetical order) \*Special Needs

Marilyn Alston	Tyler Hodgins*	Miranda Petkis
Hettie Andrews	Ronnie Holcomb	Norma Pilchett*
Fred Bame	Reva Holt	Claude Royal
Merl Blake	Raleigh Hunt	Jamie Shell
Roy Boody	Daniel Idol	Irene Shields
John Carter	Glenn Johnson	Aileen Smith*
Bonnie Clark	Lawrence Jones	Glenn Tedder
Aaron Cole	Amy Jordan	Eddie Thomason
Lib Cooper	Bessie Kendrick	Barbara Tucker
Mary Covington	Leighann Kincade	Kenneth Westmoreland
Gordon Crouch	Napha Klepper	Gordon Wilkey*
Louise Davenport*	Rose Matthews	Arry Wilson
Iris Farrington	Richie McCormick	Jessi Wright
Clyde Gray, Sr.*	Mark Midkiff	New converts
Debbie Harden	John & Dolly Miller	The Unsaved

**Note: If there are names that you know could be removed from the prayer list, please let someone on the newsletter committee know. Also, let us know if you have someone you wish to add to the prayer list.**

## Special Prayer Requests

- Those on our Youth Prayer List
- Pastor Chuck Peters
- Wade and Nora Smith (Virginia Beach, VA)
- All the missions & missionaries we support.
- Scott and Melanie Crump ~ Youth Directors
- Preachers, teachers, singers, & workers of our church & Discovery Clubs.
- The Radio broadcast & all visitation programs.
- Our sincere sympathies to the families of Lillie Gray and Wanda Smith Robertson.



## Services Each Week

Sunday School	10:00 a.m.
<i>Teen Church in the Fellowship Bldg.</i>	10:00 a.m.
Sunday Morning Service	11:00 a.m.
<i>Children's Church</i>	11:00 a.m.
Sunday Evening Service	6:00 p.m.
<b>Wednesday Services:</b>	
Discovery Bible Clubs	7:00 p.m.
Prayer Service	7:00 p.m.
Thursday Visitation	7:00 p.m.
Saturday Morning Broadcast [WPET - 950 AM]	8:00 a.m.



## December 2008



- Sat., Dec. 6, 5:30 p.m.**      **Winston-Salem Rescue Mission**
- Sat., Dec. 6, 7:00 p.m.**      **Men's/Ladies Fellowship Meeting** at Pastor Chuck's & Sister Carol's home.
- Sat., Dec. 13**      **Church Christmas Party** in the Fellowship Building.
- Tues., Dec. 23, 7:00 p.m.**      **Prayer Meeting**  
*No service on Wednesday, Dec. 24.*

We want to take this opportunity to praise the Lord for the healthy delivery of Caleb and Aaron (Jordan) on November 7. Thank you to our church family for all the love and support you showed us while Amy was in the hospital for six weeks and since her delivery. We have certainly seen the Lord hear and answer prayer for our family and anxiously await the day when Darrell and Amy and the boys will be in church with us again. I know you all are anxious to see them as well.

Love, Gale & Charlene Tester

## *A Letter to Pastor Peters . . . from the Philippines*

Dear Sir,

First of all I wanna thank God for bringing you here to our country to teach us the Book of Romans. It's really been a great encouragement to me. I personally learned a lot of things. I, and all of us are really expecting and hoping that you will return here. (Hope together with your lovely wife. )

I had really enjoyed my time with you sir. Even though it's kinda late when I approached you I am still very grateful to God because He gave me the opportunity to share my thoughts to you. And what made me more happy is the fact that you are willing to listen to me and to all of us. It's time to go home for you. I know it was great for you but you know sir, I'll gonna miss you a lot. Because you're the one whom God used to open a door of opportunity. You just don't know how happy and really thankful I am inside. I am not really an expressive person outwardly but deep inside, my heart is in tears. Well, I also want to apologize to you when I act bad during class hours . Thanks for understanding but actually, I regret. God taught me lots of lesson through you sir without you even knowing it. I will always remember you sir and to pray for you and your family. Don't worry sir, I will e-mail you if I had the time to go in the town during free weekends to inform you about us here. Also for the decision that I am going to make. I thank you sir for including me in your prayers.

Please extend my regards to your wife. I know how good your heart is and I believe she too has a good heart like yours. May you abound in love for God and for each others also to the ministry. Also, to your whole family "hello! kumusta po kayo!" (Means "hello, how are you!") Thanks also for your church who supported you to be able to be here. May our great, good Lord bless you more and more. God bless and take care.

"Mahal po namin kayo. Sana po makabalik kayo ulit."

"We love you. Hope you can come back again."

Phil. 3:13-14

Your student,

Abigail Fangonon, Philippines

I hope sir you like that cheap and simple bookmark but from my heart. Hope you keep it on your Bible to remember us. We will miss you sir.



## **"Our Honour Roll"**

**Smith Grove's ministry to our widows and widowers**  
**"Honour widows that are widows indeed."**

**(I Timothy 5:3)**

Listed below are December and January Honour Roll Gang members. Please take a moment to send a card, make a telephone call, or do something extra special for our special saints.\*

Neva Long 8716 Staples Road Colfax, NC 27235 993-4294 ~ December 19	Bessie Kendrick 2419 Sandy Ridge Road High Point, NC 27265 668-4288 ~ January 03	Marilyn Alston 122 Apt. E. Chaucer Circle Kernersville, NC 27284 993-5451 ~ January 04
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Hettie Andrews c/o Mike Andrews 996 DeShazo Road Ridgeway, VA 24148 540-957-6119 ~ January 19	Louise Byrd 2509 Sandy Ridge Rd. High Point, NC 27265 668-2823 ~ January 29
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**\*Corrected address for Hettie Mae Westmoreland:**

*2708 Sandy Ridge Road, Colfax, NC 27235*

*(No phone where she can be reached.)*

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## ***Ladies' Fellowship***

Ladies Fellowship would like to offer a special "thank you" to everyone who participated in Harvest Home Month! What tremendous church-wide participation we had for this project and we're sure the Malachi Boys Home, Winston-Salem Rescue Mission, and Tabernacle Children's Home will greatly benefit from your generosity.



The next meeting for Ladies & Men's Fellowship will be at Pastor Chuck & Carol's home on Saturday, December 6, at 7:00 p.m. Ladies, don't forget about our tract ministry and to keep up with your Bible reading. Our January meeting will be on Tuesday, January 6, at 7:00 in the Fellowship Hall.

**DEADLINE FOR PENNY DRIVE IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14** —

Don't forget to put your spare change – or \$\$\$ of any amount – in the red container in the vestibule. The money collected here will be sent to Wade and Nora Smith, our missionaries in Virginia Beach.

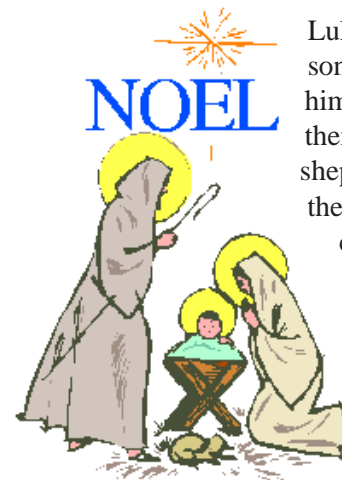
The members of Ladies Fellowship extend to you and yours a blessed Christmas filled with love and laughter. ***Merry Christmas!!!***

## Discovery Clubs

It's the end of the year already and with the arrival of December comes the time to reflect upon the year. While Discovery Club has undergone a number of changes, we are still chuckin' along with a great group of people! This semester alone we have seen the smaller ones take to the Sunday morning podium to sing praises to the Lord. We have had a growth in our teen population and we have new faces popping up everywhere! We love our kids and are so happy that they are spending their time with us!

A big thank you needs to go out to Carol and the Discovery Club Leaders for helping the little ones proclaim to the church, "I am a promise with a capital P!" There is such potential in the heart of any person willing to serve and worship! Another big thank you goes out to Darla and Bruce Freeman, and Steve and Cheryl Holt for accompanying the Teens to Oak View Baptist's Judgment House in November. There we watched the story of the final 59 minutes of four people and the results of their earthly decisions. It was a powerful witnessing tool for tender hearts. We also need to say "thank you" for those who responded to our calendar sale. They are now in and available for pick-up. See Scott or Melanie Crump if you have not already received yours!

Church Family, we love you. We appreciate the kindness that you offer to us and "our kids." While they are with us but a season in their young action-filled lives, we hope that as we plant seeds, something will grow. It is up to us all, however, to make sure they are getting nurtured. Please keep them (and us) in your prayers as we move towards the start of the new year. May you each have a Christ-centered Christmas, and a beautiful, spirit-filled new year!



Luke 2: 7-11 And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

I Cor. 7:22-24



## Gary & Melissa Memorial Outreach Ministry

Greetings, and Merry Christmas 2008! This is the time to remember Jesus, the gift of God for us, and for the whole world – past, present, and those to come. Thank God for His greatest gift!

Let me tell you all about the work we are doing in senior homes in the triad area. The work is going very well, people are being blessed, and Jesus is exalted and lifted up as we visit every week.

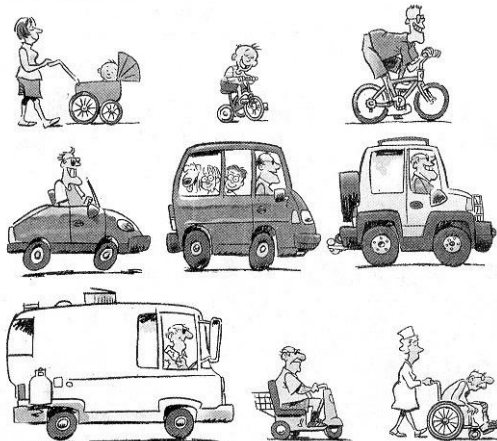
Andrea has been helping for about 6 months, and Phil and Jane Shue are helping us nearly every week in this rewarding ministry as we work for the cause of Christ together. Carolyn Williams is playing music for us now, and what a blessing she is. Jane Shue also plays and sings beautifully – many thanks to everyone who is working alongside us in His service.

If you need a place of service, please let me know. There is a place for you in this vital senior ministry. We have the opportunity to tell folks each and every week that "JESUS SAVES!"

Please pray for us as we hold special Christmas services through December 25. **God bless you all.**

In Christ,  
Gary Smith ~ I Peter 5:7

### The Wheels of Life



## *A Christmas Remembrance*

My favorite season is here once again,  
The time to remember the Saviour of men,  
Who left Heaven's glory to come down to earth,  
And lie in a manger the night of His birth.  
He came here to die, all my sins to forgive,  
That some day in Heaven with Him I might live.  
I look all around at the beautiful sights,  
The shops and the malls with their glitter and lights;



The songs about Christmas, and sleigh bells that ring,  
And children, and pageants, and choirs that sing.  
And I am so busy from morning till night,  
Preparing and planning to do things just right,  
While shopping, and cleaning, and cooking each day,  
With packages, ribbons, and cards on display,  
But please help me stop, Lord, and take time for You,  
And pray for Your guidance in each thing I do.

Whenever I'm baking each goodie and treat,  
May I not forget those with nothing to eat.  
And may I be willing to share of my wealth,  
So they may be nourished, and brought back to health.  
And as I send greetings to friends I love so,  
Please help me to pray for Your saints I don't know,  
Who suffer in prisons for bearing Your Name,  
Forgotten, alone, undeserving of blame.



Each time I am cleaning to keep my home neat,  
Please help me remember the ones on the street  
Who shiver because they've no place to stay warm,  
No shelter at all to protect from the storm.  
And as I go shopping, and see the display  
Of countless new garments in splendid array,  
Please keep my heart tender towards people in need,  
With loving compassion, devoid of greed.

When reading the Bible that tells of Your care,  
Lord, give me a passion for souls in despair  
Who know not the Saviour Who saves them from sin.  
Please help me to share, and by faith draw them in.

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## *'Twas the month before Christmas*

'Twas the month before Christmas, when all through our land,  
Not a Christian was praying, nor taking a stand.  
The "politically correct police" had taken away,  
The reason for Christmas - no one could say.

The children were told by their schools not to sing,  
About Shepherds and Wise Men and Angels and things.  
It might hurt people's feelings, the teachers would say.  
December 25th is just a "Holiday."

Yet the shoppers were ready with cash, checks and credit.  
Pushing folks down to the floor just to get it!  
CDs from Madonna, an X-BOX, an I-pod  
Something was changing, something quite odd!

Retailers promoted Ramadan and Kwanzaa.  
In hopes to sell books by Franken & Fonda.  
As some stores were hanging their trees upside down.  
At others the word Christmas - was nowhere to be found.

At the top of the Senate, there arose such a clatter  
To eliminate Jesus, in all public matter.

And we spoke not a word, as they  
took away our faith.  
Forbidden to speak of salvation  
and grace.

The true Gift of Christmas was  
exchanged and discarded,  
The reason for the season . . . . .  
. . . stopped before it started.

