

THE MESSENGER

Smith Grove Baptist Church
P.O. Box 57
Colfax, NC 27235

**VOLUME 32
December 2015
ISSUE 381**

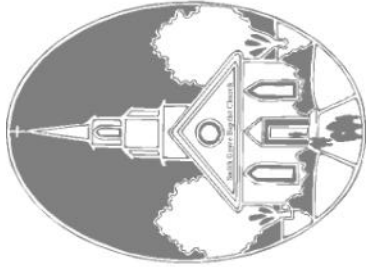
PROVERBS 25:13

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 . . .

Sunday School 10:00 AM
Morning Worship 11:00 AM
Children's Church 11:15 AM
Evening Worship 6:00 PM
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM
Bible Clubs 7:00 PM
Thursday Visitation 7:00 PM

~ **NURSERY PROVIDED** ~
2707 Sandy Ridge Road
Colfax, NC 27235

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



www.smithgrove.org

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The Messenger



December



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December 2015

Sat., Dec. 5.....Winston-Salem Rescue Mission

Sun., Dec.. 6, 12:00 pm ~ *Christmas Dinner in the Fellowship Building*. Please bring a covered dish to share.

Sun., Dec.. 6, 6 pm ~ *Song Service* - rescheduled from Nov. 29.

Tues., Dec. 8, 7-8 p.m.Robinwood Retirement Center

Sun., Dec. 20:.....**BEAMS' SUNDAY** ~ and . . .
11 am.....Cantata, *Bethlehem's Child*
6 pm.....Children's Program, *The Christmas Family*

Statement of Faith:

We are an Independent Baptist Church (*established in 1921*) preaching the old time Gospel and still believing that the King James Version of the Bible constitutes the preserved, inerrant, and inspired Word of God for the English speaking people of the earth.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

SHUT-INS

Louise Byrd
Iris Farrington
Harry Haynes
Neva Long

Jo Anne Pegram
Ann Rayle
Barbara Tucker
Forrest Tucker

Clara Ward
Gerry Williams

Assisted Living/Nursing Home

Helen Jones ~ Rose Matthews ~ Betty Robinson ~ Lorene Robertson

Prayer List continued on Next Page . . .

Pray for those . . .

IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY



A1C William Holt, US Air Force
Pope AFB, Vass, NC 28394
CW3 Jonathan Harless (Raleigh, NC)
Maj. Robert Harless (160th SOAR,
Savannah, GA)
Charles Holmes, Al Asad Air Base
(Northern Iraq)

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Michael Maine, US Army

[Alaska] (Nephew of Clarence Redmon)

Kyle Norman, 565 Outer Drive, Box 190
JB Lewis-McCord, WA 98438

Jason Sabot – Serving in Afghanistan



Jesus justified me before God
Emanipated my heart
Saved me from sin
Untangled my self-esteem
Spoke life over me



Cleansed me of guilt and shame
Healed my wounds
Redeemed my life
Inspired me to love others
Smoothed my rough edges
Took my place on the cross.

Luke 2:11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



BEAMS' Report for November 2015

of Pledges: 15; # of Contributions: 4 ;
Total Contributors: 19
Total Contributed: \$ 598.00 =
74 Bibles in November (Plus some postage.)

You can also get the BEAMS' report online at our website:
http://www.smithgrove.org/beams_ministry.htm

Audio Sermons

Don't forget: Pastor Chuck's sermons are online. They are included in the Home Page navigation on smithgrove.org (top of page) -- simply click on the Audio Sermons button. *Please share this information with everybody you know!*

The Vanishing American

Some years ago, during the depression, a government agent traveled through the Tennessee Mountains making small allotments to impoverished farmers for seed, stock or needed improvements. He found one such woman who lived alone, scratching out a bare living on two acres of barren ground. "If the government should allot you \$200, what would you do with it?" he asked her.

The woman thought a moment. Her cabin had no floor, its windows were covered with tar paper, light came through the broken walls. Finally, she looked up and said, "Reckon I'd give it to the poor."



The Road to Everlasting Life

Romans 3:23 "For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God."

Romans 5:12 "Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned."

Romans 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

Romans 6:23 "For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Romans 10:9-10 "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead thou shalt be saved. For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation."

Romans 10:13 "For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Robbie Mullinax & Family

"Taking God's Word to China" ~ www.BibleTeam.org

The Lord gave the word: great was the company of those that published it.
Psalms 68:11

The Underground Church of China vs. The Unregistered Church of China

I am often asked about the condition of the Church in China. Some say we have to meet in secret. (The Underground Church) Some say we meet in the open with no problems. (The Unregistered Church) Some say we need Bibles and tracts. Some say we have plenty of Bibles and they are easy to get. So, which is true? The answer may surprise you - ALL of it is true!

I recently returned from China where I preached at possibly the largest Independent Baptist Church in all of China. There were over 400 people in attendance that Sunday and it's not unusual for them to have over 600 worshippers for special services. This is NOT an underground church. You can't hide 600 people. They have been harassed by the police and moved many times around the city, but they continue to meet. Most of these people have access to Bibles through local Government Church agencies; although, The Bible Team has supplied them with children's Bibles and additional Study Bibles. This is a great example of an "UNREGISTERED CHURCH", meaning, they are not registered with the Chinese Government. They are technically meeting illegally but the authorities do not seem to care a whole lot.

A much different trip took me to another Province of China 100's of miles away. The circumstances here are completely different. We drove for hours to a somewhat remote farming village. There are mostly dirt roads and small shacks where these people live. My missionary friend took me to the home of a local Chinese Pastor and we had a service early that Sunday morning. About 20 Believers met at his home and we worshipped together in secret. We learned of 8 to 10 other churches meeting in this remote farm area - in secret. This is an example of the "THE UNDERGROUND CHURCH". Praise The Lord we were able to supply these churches with Bibles, children's Bibles and tracts. Our missionary friend visits this village twice a month to help share the Gospel.

Please understand that there are numerous ministry opportunities within China, but rules change from city to city, and from village to village. Please pray that the Unregistered Church of China will continue to grow without any interferences from the Government. Please pray that the Underground Church of China will continue to grow in the midst of persecution.

Updates: 1. The September Bible Team trip was successful in transporting hundreds of Study Bibles and children's Bibles into Mainland China under heightened security at the Hong Kong/China border. Our team experienced numerous stops and confiscations, but continued on in spite of the hindrances. 2. The December Bible Team will leave for China Dec. 3rd. Pray for the health and safety of the team as we transport the Word of God and visit numerous churches.

Special Request: Please pray for a Bible Shipment heading to Northern China near the border of North Korea. We need \$12,000 to finish paying for the printing and the shipping cost. The shipment is coming out of South Korea and will be packaged and shipped very discreetly into China. There are some risks involved in this shipment, so pray for the un-named participants. I'm sure many of you could help with the payment for this Chinese/Korean project. Send your gift to: THE BIBLE TEAM, 3931 White Horse Road, Greenville, SC 29611.

Serving the Chinese Church, *Robbie, Jan, & Anadele*

The Bible Team ~ A Ministry of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Greenville, SC.
864-269-2760 ext.218 ~ 864-380-8876 cell

SICK/OTHER PRAYER NEEDS:

(Newly added names are in italics.)



J.C. Adams (Car accident)
Melvin & JoAnn Alley (Guilford House, GBoro)
Dale Austin (Melanie's Dad-leukemia)
Lou Badgett
Homer Bowden
Sherri Bowling
Sheridan Bowman
Konny Bridges
Ann Burke (stroke)
Thelma Bullard
Tammy Burnett (cancer)
Johnny Clark (heart transplant)
Patrick Clark (CHF)
Sundae Clark (Heart Surgery - Sherrill Crater's sister-in-law in Minnesota)
Christie Cobb (Breast Cancer)
Teresa Duggins (Heart Surgery)
Olivia Dunn (9-yr old -- cancer)
Iris Farrington (Broken arm)
Diane Foust
Kathy Fulk (Diabetes & health issues)
Kim Garrett (Cancer/Crohn's Disease)
Charles "Junior" Gray (Cancer)
Samuel Hall (Health Issues)
Carol Hayden
George Hayes (heart)
Rhonda Hedgecock
Ricky Hedgecock
Tim Hedgecock
Blake Hemric (Car Accident)
Joretta Holt (CHF)
Marlene Holt (crushed shoulder)
Sarah Hudson (CHF)
Sarah Isenhour (Crohn's Disease)
Jimmy Johnson (Special prayer, please)
Maureen Lamb
Wesley Landreth
Don & Marcie Lemar (Health Issues)
Clara Farrington Long (health issues)
Dot Long (Suffered a fall)
Neva Long (Recovering at home.)
Elaine Lowe (Health Issues)
Mark Lowe
Ann Matthews
Daniel & Mazie Matthews
Gary McArthur (malignant tumor)
Kevin McBrayer (Heart Issues)
Howard McCollum
Maggie McGee
Cindy Miller (Health Issues)
Phillip Moore - (Lung Cancer)
Melody Myers (Cancer)
Sally Nester (cancer)
Gail Nuckles
Raymond Nuckles (Health Issues)
Clarence Parker (Cancer)
Ethel Pendry
Vera Peters (Heart Attack)
Gene & Oma Lou Pitts
Allen Priddy (PTSD)
Charles Raso (Throat cancer surgery)
Joe Ray
Sandra Richardson
Tom Rodgers
Claude Royal
Justin Royal
Jean Rumsey
Violet Sealey (Special prayer, please)
Betty Soyars
Allen Steele (Syria)
Donald Stephens
Michael Tate (ICU)
Amy Thompson (Suffered a fall)
Samantha Tucker's mother
Brooke Long Wagoner
Reid Westmoreland
Sandy Westmoreland
Jan Wilson
Elizabeth Yeoman

BEREAVED Families of:
Henry Barger
Karen Peters Hart (Pastor Chuck's niece)
John Hedgecock

“The Cry from the Ground”

“And he said, What hast thou done? the voice of thy brother's blood crieth unto me from the ground.” Genesis 4:10

Cain killed his brother Abel but the brutal murder did not go unnoticed by the all-seeing God. Cain's religion was bloodless yet he ended up with blood on his hands! He attempted an approach to God based upon the labor of his own hands. God had made it clear that the only acceptable approach was through the death of a sacrificial animal which typified the coming Lamb of God. The only approach to God is through acceptance of the finished work of Christ on Calvary on the part of a sinner.

The blood of Abel cried up to God from the ground for vengeance! I believe that the blood of the innocent slain today cries up to God for vengeance against those who commit their murder. I believe that the blood of the millions murdered in Abortion clinics is crying out for vengeance from the ground. I think of the many young lives destroyed because of drugs and the many that have died from the use of drugs. Their blood is on the hands of the drug dealers and handlers that value money more than human lives!

The blood of those who have been deceived and duped by religious racketeers is on the hands of those preaching their “bloodless religious” message! Blood is on the hands of the many so-called, “Rev's” who have forfeited Gospel preaching to promote political agendas. They have desecrated the pulpit by turning it into a podium to promote racial tension instead preaching the life saving message of redemption through the blood of Jesus Christ!

The elite and famous Hollywood crowd that produces their movies laced with moral corruption and sacrilegious slander will soon enough face the God they have fought during their careers. Many of the rich and famous flaunt lifestyles which mock moral standards while suggesting to our youth an immoral doctrine of freedom without restraint. Their hands will be found dripping with blood!

This Godless, Sodom and Gomorrah culture will find out in the end that nothing and no one succeeds when God is denied and righteous living is denounced. God is the Designer of the marriage union between a man and a woman and furthermore the Definer of what constitutes marriage!

Above all, the cry of the innocent blood of the slain is heard by the ears of the Avenger of heaven and earth. He, in fact, hears and sees all of the activities of sinful man. It will be proven in the end that humans do bear responsibility to respect the sacredness of human life and that murderers will eventually be summonsed to stand before the One who hears the cry of their blood!

Pastor Chuck Peters

December Birthdays

1	Adalyn Finney	16	Jan Wilson
3	Sheila Payne	17	Jessica Holt
4	Mackenzie Ann Barham	18	Brian Faulkner
5	Willis George	19	Neva Long
5	Elaine Lowe	19	Todd Tucker
6	Sam Clonts	20	Andrew Harrison Smith
7	Joretta Holt	21	Johnny Cameron
9	Shaila Puckett	23	Bernice Johnson
10	Reva Holt	23	Nancy Kelly
11	Joshua Sexton	30	Barbara Bowden
11	Rhoney Wilson	30	Lillie Mae Crump
12	Lydia Beeson	31	John David Payne
12	Tori Heath		Craig Pearman
16	Gale Tester		Lonnie Tucker

January Birthdays

2	Adrian Barham	17	Doris Cochran
3	Jerry Crump	17	Jennifer Finney
3	Bessie Sloop	20	Stephanie Redmon
4	Keith Crouch	23	Rachael Keedy
4	Kevin Crouch	23	Matthew Norman
4	Ernie Fulk	27	Morgan Flynt
5	William Holt	27	Dolly Westmoreland
6	Shirley Ingold	29	Brianna Clemmons
7	Corey Faulkner	29	Louise Byrd
7	Wanda Stafford	29	Donna Key
7	Kathy Flynt	30	Briana Crews
10	Gary Hendrix	30	Allen Tate
12	Becky McCollum	30	Betty Bame
14	Emberly Lynn Tate		Terry Dillon

December Anniversaries

- 1 Cleo & Reva Holt (1951 - celebrating 64 years of marriage!)
- 3 Dan & Bobbie Hayworth
- 23 Waynard & Carol Nuckles
- 24 Tim & Evelyn Matthews





“Our Honour Roll”

Smith Grove’s ministry to our widows and widowers

“Honour widows that are widows indeed.”

(1 Timothy 5:3)

This is a continuing churchwide ministry to remember widows and widowers of the church in a meaningful way. Each month, we highlight our special “Honour Roll Gang Members” who are having birthdays. 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.

Joretta Holt

8412 Stafford Mill Rd.
Oak Ridge, N.C. 27310
336-993-2493
336-707-6624 (Cell) ~ Dec 7

Neva Long

8716 Staples Road
Colfax, NC 27235
336-993-4294 ~ Dec 19

Bernice Johnson

5220 Prince Charles Dr.
Kernersville, NC 27284
336-788-6302 ~ December 23



Kathy Flynt

1965 Sandy Ridge Road
Colfax, NC 27235
336-668-2500 ~ January 7

Dolly Westmoreland

520 Lakedale Rd
Colfax, NC 27235
336-993-2093 ~ January 27

Louise Byrd

2211 Golden Gate Dr APT 301
Greensboro, NC 27405-4350
336-370-3999 ~ January 29



My First Christmas In Heaven

I see the countless Christmas Trees around the world below,
with tiny lights, like heaven's stars, reflecting on the snow.

The sight is so spectacular, please wipe away that tear,
for I am spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

I hear the many Christmas songs that people hold so dear,
but the sounds of music can't compare with
the Christmas choir up here.

I have no words to tell you, the joy their voices bring,
for it is beyond description, to hear the angels sing.

I know how much you miss me. I see the pain inside
your heart, but I am not so far away. We really aren't apart.
So be happy for me dear ones. You know I hold you dear,
and be glad I'm spending Christmas, with Jesus Christ this year.

I send you each a special gift, from my heavenly home above.

I send you each a memory, of my undying love.

After all “Love” is the gift, more precious than pure gold.

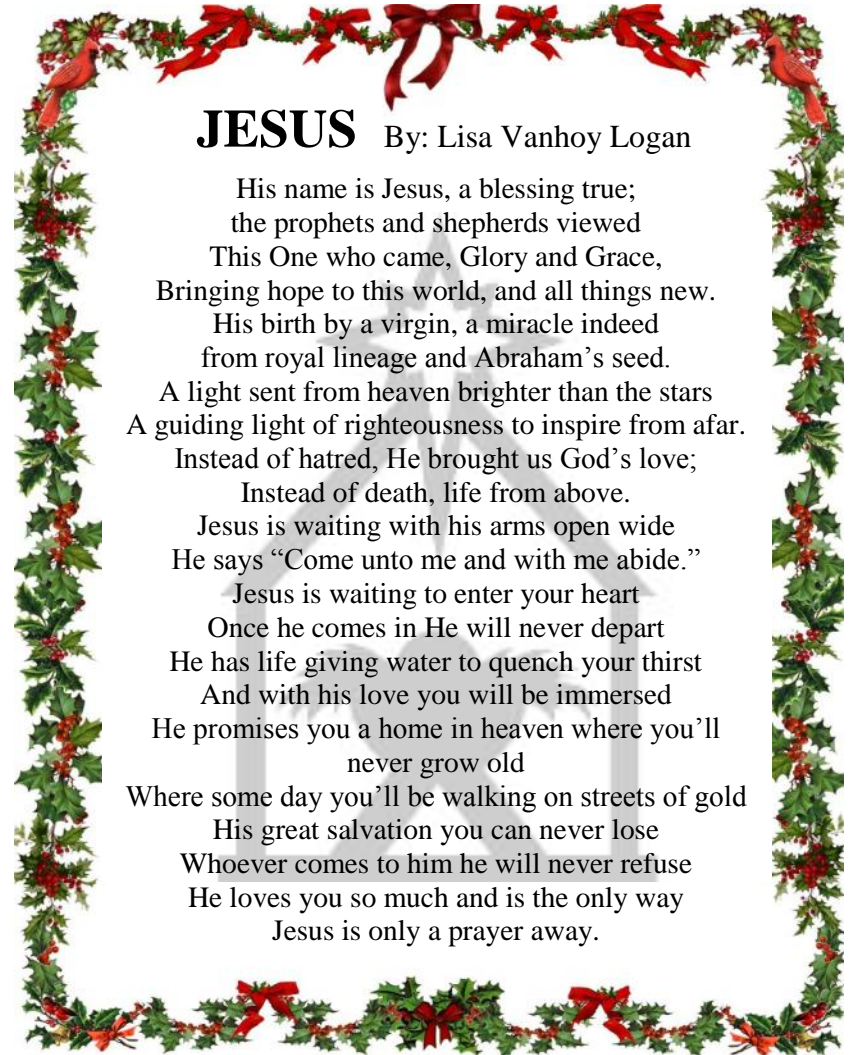
It was always most important in the stories Jesus told.

Please love and keep each other, as my Father said to do,
for I can't count the blessing or love he has for each of you.

So, have a Merry Christmas and wipe away that tear.

Remember, I'm spending Christmas with Jesus Christ this year.

Many thanks to Kathy Flynt for submitting the following poem which was written by Charles’ cousin, Lisa Vanhoy Logan.



JESUS By: Lisa Vanhoy Logan

His name is Jesus, a blessing true;
the prophets and shepherds viewed

This One who came, Glory and Grace,
Bringing hope to this world, and all things new.

His birth by a virgin, a miracle indeed
from royal lineage and Abraham’s seed.

A light sent from heaven brighter than the stars
A guiding light of righteousness to inspire from afar.

Instead of hatred, He brought us God’s love;
Instead of death, life from above.

Jesus is waiting with his arms open wide
He says “Come unto me and with me abide.”

Jesus is waiting to enter your heart

Once he comes in He will never depart

He has life giving water to quench your thirst

And with his love you will be immersed

He promises you a home in heaven where you’ll
never grow old

Where some day you’ll be walking on streets of gold

His great salvation you can never lose

Whoever comes to him he will never refuse

He loves you so much and is the only way

Jesus is only a prayer away.

Just before 8 a.m. on December 7, 1941, hundreds of Japanese fighter planes attacked Pearl Harbor Naval Base near Honolulu, Hawaii. The barrage lasted just two hours, but it was devastating: The Japanese destroyed nearly 20 American naval vessels, including eight battleships, and almost 200 airplanes. More than 2,000 Americans soldiers and sailors died in the attack, and another 1,000 were wounded. The day after the assault, President Franklin D. Roosevelt asked Congress to declare war on Japan; Congress approved his declaration with just one dissenting vote. Three days later, Japanese allies Germany and Italy also declared war on the United States, and again Congress reciprocated. More than two years into the conflict, America had finally joined World War II.

“The War Against Christmas”

Pastor Chuck Peters

Every passing year witnesses an increasing attack on Christmas. The word “Christmas” is an apparent problem for many people. The message of Christmas is targeted and stores and businesses are uncomfortable with Nativity scenes. The world prefers that the special day commemorating the birth of Christ be neutralized and dressed up in political correctness in order to not offend those who have problems with the real reason for the season!

The secular attitude towards Christmas is blatantly hypocritical. It is amazing how many merchants buckle to public outcry when their coffers are threatened. The Mall in Charlotte, for example, decided that it might be wise to keep the traditional Christmas tree! It found that “it couldn’t have its cake and eat it too!” The political correct route seemed to show a kind and sensitive attitude towards those who might be offended by traditional Christmas trappings. The mall owners proved that potential business loss had greater value than a concern in hurt feelings!

Those of us who know the Christ of Christmas know the meaning of Christmas. We understand that the celebration of Christmas is not restricted to holiday decorations. Christmas, the holiday, is gladsome for the unsaved merchants who exploit the day only for business sake. Christmas, the Holy Day, is glorious for the Christian who rejoices in the purpose for Christmas day. “But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law, To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.” – Gal.4:4-5

The student of Scripture understands that the war against Christmas is really against the Christ of Christmas. This war is actually the longest war known to mankind. We can trace, in Biblical history, the efforts of the arch enemy of God at blocking the coming of Jesus Christ to fulfill His redemptive work at Calvary. God gave, in the Garden of Eden, the prophetic announcement of the mortal blow



that Christ’s work at Calvary would exact against Satan and sin. “And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel.” – Gen.3:15



The Devil declared war against Christmas in an effort to hinder the coming of this “seed of the woman.” He, after Christ was born, desired to divert Him from fulfilling His mission to die for the sins of the world. What about Herod’s attempt to have the Christ child killed? “Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceeding wrath, and sent forth, and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem, and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently enquired of the wise men.” – Mat. 2:16



We understand that the war against Christmas is as old as the centuries. We also can thank God that this wonderful Saviour was virgin born right on time in spite of the Devil’s attempt to stop Him. He not only came to Bethlehem on time but also to Calvary on time! He, in fact, came to the threshold of the cross acknowledging His Divine and precise appointment to suffer as sinners’ substitute. “Now is my soul troubled; and what shall I say? Father, save me from this hour: but for this cause came I unto this hour.” – John.12:27 Thank God, the war against Christmas, in terms of its real meaning, was lost before it was even started!



Hallelujah, we can be sure that Jesus was born on time and died on time. He arose on time and will return on time. The Devil and all of the demons of hell will never succeed in destroying Christmas. His birth is a Biblical and historical fact and the joy within the soul of the blood-washed child of God argues in testimony that He is come. “Joy to the world, the Lord is come.” They can strip every Christmas tree from every mall and take down every nativity scene but His virgin birth, vicarious death, and victorious resurrection assure the redemption of the soul of the repentant sinner. That redemption is, furthermore, eternal - for His great work of redemption is finished!

