



Joy to the World!

VOLUME 26

December 2009

ISSUE 309

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 . . .



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 -

2707 Sandy Ridge Road
Colfax, NC 27235

Dr. Charles (Chuck) Peters, Pastor

Home: (336) 996-8563

Cell: (336) 812-1169

Christmas Mystery

I Timothy 3:16 "And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory."

II Corinthians 8:9 "For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich."

Our minds cannot comprehend the thought that God could become poor. He is the creator, owner, and Sovereign ruler of the universe. He voluntarily laid aside His royal garments and left the ivory palaces of glory when He became man. This God Man would be made a curse for sinful man at Calvary!

At Christmas we reflect upon His birth at Bethlehem. He was born to die, however. God was manifested in human flesh but destined to fulfill the abject poverty of being a substitute for sinners. This precious One of spotless character became a sinner in our stead!

Our attempt to celebrate Christmas should not be the usual approach of this secular and godless society. Christmas is not about shopping and Santa but about Christ. He came to seek and to save the lost. This meant that God had to become man and die on the cross. Thank God, those who are saved enjoy the riches of salvation, access to the throne of Grace, and "... an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you," – I Peter 1:4

May this Christmas find you with your eyes focused upon Christ and your hearts rejoicing over the great truth of this Christmas mystery. The only way to properly celebrate Christmas is to be saved. "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

Pastor Chuck Peters

JEWISH END-TIME MINISTRIES ~ Tom Jeran

6116 Vance Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37421

tomjeran@jem-missions.com [423-883-1761]

Thank you very much for your ongoing prayers and support which has allowed me to travel as needed for the cause of Christ. In my last letter I spoke of returning to the Ukraine to work with Bro. Eugene Kozachenko. I have just returned after my two week stay. This trip was truly a great blessing for me because of the opportunities I was given and the people I met. After arriving on Wednesday I attended Regeneration Baptist Church. At the request of Pastor Ivan I was given the opportunity to speak to the church concerning their prayer life and praying for the lost. Regeneration Baptist Church was the first church I worked with in 1993 during the evangelism crusades when the Ukraine separated itself from Russia becoming an independent country again. On Thursday evening I spoke at Eastern Gate Baptist Church. Pastor Dema Pischetsky and I have been friends for a good number of years and I enjoy working with him.

Bro. Eugene and I then drove 400 miles to Zhitomir to speak at newly formed Mayak (Beacon) Baptist Church. Pastor Valdamir Kruchinin has a desire to reach the Jewish people of Zhitomir. We had the opportunity to speak to the church of the necessity of reaching the Jewish people. It was our intention to help start an End-time Outreach Fellowship in the near future. The first Sunday morning I was asked by Daniel Vinogradsky to speak at Christmas Baptist Church's celebration of the 100th anniversary of the first church founded in Zhitomir. Pastor Daniel, to my surprise, is another pastor I worked with back in the early nineties and I was invited to come back for Christmas Baptist Church's 50th anniversary.

Pastor Valdamir Kruchinin and Mayak Baptist church also hosted a three day conference on personal soul winning. Other American missionaries were in attendance and Bro Eugene and I had an opportunity to speak on reaching Jewish people. Mostly young men had attended this conference and had testified how it truly helped them. One young man came from Odessa which is in the far southern region of the Ukraine, a twelve hour- trip! This young man certainly had a dedication for the Lord and a joy in his heart!

After the conference we returned to Dnepropetrovsk where I was to speak at a youth conference on Saturday night. After arriving at the church I met Pastor Stevon and Igor. Pastor Stevon was another pastor I have worked with in the past and as for Igor, he sold us thousands bibles for the evangelistic trips all through the 90's and to 2005!

[Continued on next page.]

~ LADIES' FELLOWSHIP ~

As we approach the Christmas Season, please keep these dates in mind:

DEADLINE FOR ANNUAL PENNY DRIVE IS SUNDAY, DEC. 13

Don't forget to put your spare change – or \$\$\$ of any amount – in the containers at both doors. The money collected here will be sent to Wade and Nora Smith, our missionaries in Virginia Beach, in time to make Christmas special for the children in their community.

DEADLINE FOR SENIOR SAINTS CHRISTMAS BOXES IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13 –

In addition to the fruit baskets that are distributed to the widows and widowers, we also plan to fill a Christmas Box for our Senior Saints who are not able to come to church. We are asking the church family to donate items that shut-ins can use – i.e. sugar free candy, gum, lotion, Kleenex, anything else you can think of – just be sure they're packaged small enough to fit into a regular-size shoe box. (If you have a shoe box you don't need, we'll take those as well.) Please bring to Charlene between now and December 13 and we'll see they are put to good use.

DEADLINE FOR CHRISTMAS MAILBOX IS SUNDAY, DEC. 20 –

If you would like to exchange Christmas cards with the church family (especially the widows & widowers) without incurring the cost of postage, feel free to bring your cards between November 29 and December 20 and place them in the mailbox on the front pew. They will be distributed before Christmas.

Our January meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 5, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We would love to have you join us as we begin our new year.

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



The mission of the Smith Grove Ladies Fellowship is to promote spiritual growth of the ladies in our church family, proclaim the love of Christ in every activity in which we participate, and provide benevolent support to our church family and surrounding community.

December Birthdays.....

03 Sheila Payne	16 Jan Wilson	Andrew Donnell
04 Mackenzie Ann Barham	17 Jessica Holt	Marvin Donnell
04 Chasity Ramey	19 Neva Long	Chris Freeman
05 Willis George	19 Todd Tucker	Dylon Freeman
05 Elaine Lowe	20 Andrew Harrison Smith	Craig Pearman
10 Reva Holt	21 Johnny Cameron	Jennifer Smith
11 Rhoney Wilson	23 Bernice Johnson	Mark Tilley
12 Lydia Beeson	30 Barbara Bowden	Lonnie Tucker
12 Tori Heath	31 John David Payne	
16 Gale Tester		

January Birthdays.....

02 Adrian Barham	13 Harvey Pitts	30 Briana Crews
02 Mike Cashion	17 Amy Wilkey	30 Austin Russell
03 Jerry Crump	17 Doris Cochran	30 Allen Tate
03 Bessie Kendrick	20 Stephanie Hutton	30 Betty Bame
04 Marilyn Alston	22 Rachelle Hayes	Terry Dillon
04 Keith Crouch	23 Matthew Norman	Kathy Flynt
04 Kevin Crouch	27 Cheryl Cashion	Suzanne Kirk
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	

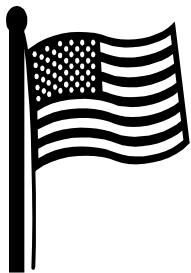


December Anniversaries

12/21 Johnny & Tammy Cameron
Cleo & Reva Holt
Waynard & Carol Nuckles



Pray for those In the Service of our Country



Matthew Bennett (new recruit in Jacksonville, SC)
A1C William Holt, US Air Force
Sheppard AFB, TX
CW2 Jonathan Harless (Iraq)
Cpt. Robert Harless (Savannah, GA)
Chief Warrant Officer 3 Michael Maine, US Army
[stationed stateside]
Corporal Mel Wright, US Marines, stateside
(Nephews of Clarence Redmon)

JEWISH END-TIME MINISTRIES ~ Tom Jeran.... Continued

Sunday morning I spoke at Eastern Gate Baptist Church and in the evening at a church in Novomoskovsk. Monday and Tuesday I worked with Pastor Dema on the street distributing tracts and speaking to people about the gospel. Pastor Dema's has desire to start a work in that area of the city. Both days the people were very inflexible, very few would take tracts. Materialism has found the door of opportunity! Monday evening I spoke to a small group of men wanting to learn how to teach and preach. This trip was truly a blessing to see those pastors again and that they were still faithful to the sane church God gave them!

Cuba - 2010: This month Dr. Henry Benach and I will be travelling to Cuba to work out the details for next year's evangelism outreaches in Havana and in Rolly's home town of Bejucal. There are numerous details that must be worked out concerning the churches that will help us and in case we cannot get religious visas, we will need speakers. We will also investigate the printing of the gospel tracts, the cost and the possibility of renting a hall if the churches are too small to hold a large crowds. To our knowledge evangelism like this has never been accomplished before in Havana! Pray for this outreach that the government will continue to allow this event!

I have one major prayer request, because of the overseas trips back to back, including the one in the planning stages to Costa Rica in December; I could use extra financial assistance for these trips. Because of the difficult times we are in, it has caused a drop in my support. I had committed to these trips before the decrease in my support and it would be difficult to back away from these ministry opportunities now. Please pray about my situation and if you can help me in any way I would be very grateful. Thank you very much.



In Appreciation

.....From a fellow church member:

"If the Greensboro News & Record can compliment someone for a good deed, surely I can too. My thanks go to a person in this church who is always willing to anything she can, and even though she is not sure she can do it, she will try her best." *Many thanks to Toots Nuckles for everything!*

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Smith Grove Seniors

Louise Byrd	Pat George	Laura Nuckles
Lib Cooper*	Cleo Holt	J. D. Shields
Gordon Crouch	Reva Holt	Raynelle Shields
Shirley Crouch	Helen Jones	Wade Shields
Louise Davenport*	Lawrence Jones	Louise Smith
Iris Farrington	Neva Long	Glenn Tedder
Wilma Farrington	Curney Matthews	Clarence Tucker
June Freeman	Rose Matthews	Forrest Tucker
Ernest Fulk	Bud McCurdy	Hettie Westmoreland

Others in Need of Prayer

(In alphabetical order)

Marilyn Alston	Clyde Gray, Sr.*	Norma Pilchett*
Fred Bame	Debbie Harden	Sarah Reed
Merl Blake	Ronnie Holcomb	Claude Royal
Roy Boody	Alice & Barry Holman	Jamie Shell
John Carter	Raleigh Hunt	Eddie Thomason
Bonnie Clark	Daniel Idol	Melissa Thomason
Cody (13-yr old in Thomasville)	Roscoe Johnson	Barbara Tucker
Aaron Cole	Leighann Kincade	Clara Ward
Alice Covington	Napha Klepper	Kenneth Westmoreland
Tom Covington	Richie McCormick	Gordon Wilkey*
Jimmy Dillon	Mark Midkiff	Gerry Williams*
Adam Easter* (Adam has cancer and is gravely ill.)	John & Dolly Miller	Arry Wilson
David Gindelsberger	Darius Moore	Jessi Wright
	John Pearl	New converts
	Don Peterson	The Unsaved
	Miranda Petkis	

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.
- Youth Directors
- Preachers, teachers, singers, & workers of our church & Discovery Clubs.
- Our sincere sympathies to the families of Margaret Long and Treva Rayle.



Services Each Week

Sunday School	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.
Wednesday Services:	
Discovery Bible Clubs	7:00 p.m.
Prayer Service	7:00 p.m.
Thursday Visitation	7:00 p.m.



December 2009

- Sat., Dec. 5- 8:30 a.m. Trip to Billy Graham Library and McAdenville** to see the Christmas lights – Gary & Denice Slate will be hosting the trip. Bus will leave the church at 8:30 a.m.
- Sun., Dec. 13 Church-wide Christmas Dinner** after the morning service – covered dish.
- Sun., Dec. 20, 6 p.m. Choir/Young People Christmas Program**
- Looking Ahead in 2010:**
Tues., Jan. 5, 7 p.m. Ladies/Men's Fellowship "After Christmas" Party in the fellowship hall

Welcome, New Members

Johnny & Tammy Cameron

I Cor. 7:22-24



Gary & Friends Missionary Outreach Ministry

Prayers and blessings from God to you all! Christmas month is here, and, wow, do I get busy at this time of year! Our crew will be in many senior homes this month, sharing the Christmas message in song and word, as we do each year.

This year has been very successful, and our senior ministry has reached more people than ever for the cause of Christ in 2009. God help us to do it again next year, and to expand into different types of good ministries for Christ. I want to see people saved and our time is running out. Jesus is coming, old age is coming, sickness may come – we need to do it now, as a local church, and as Christians who want to be part of soul winning.

God bless you all,
Gary Smith and Friends ~ I Peter 5:7

My Credit Report

If my life was a credit report and I was trying to obtain God's mercy based on my score, I surely wouldn't get it. My history shows that I've been delinquent in praise, past due in prayer, my worship has been in collections and I've missed a few payments (tithes). Not to mention that my debt (sin) to income (blessings) ratio is too high.

But I thank God that I was able to file bankruptcy (repentance) and it cleared me of all of my debt (sin). Now I have a co-signer (Jesus) whose score is FLAWLESS... Not one blemish (sin) on his report.

So now.... I QUALIFY for EVERYTHING! Most importantly I've inherited eternal life and I didn't have to put one penny down. All of my closing costs were covered when Jesus laid down His life for me! I hear that my future home has all of the upgrades, too. Hardwood floors? Please! I'll be walking on gold! Thank You, Lord, for your unmerited mercy, grace & favor!



“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
6684288 ~ January 03

Marilyn Alston
122 Apt. E. Chaucer Circle
Kernersville, NC 27284
993-5451 ~ January 04

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

Louise Byrd
2509 Sandy Ridge Rd.
High Point, NC 27265
668-2823 ~ January 29



No Christmas This Year

We won't have a Christmas this year, you say
For now the children have all gone away;
And the house is so lonely, so quiet and so bare
We couldn't have a Christmas that they didn't share.



We won't have a Christmas this year, you sigh,
For Christmas means things that money must buy.
Misfortunes and illness have robbed us we fear
Of the things that we'd need to make Christmas this year.

We won't have a Christmas this year you weep,
For a loved one is gone, and our grief is too deep;
It will be a long time before our hearts heal,
And the spirit of Christmas again we can feel.



But if you lose Christmas when troubles befall,
You never have really had Christmas at all.
For once you have had it, it cannot depart
When you learn that true Christmas is Christ in your heart.

~ Verna S Teeuwissen ~

~ *The Month Before Christmas* ~

Tw'as the month before Christmas
When all through our land,
Not a Christian was praying
Nor taking a stand.

When had our freedoms been taken away,
And 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 th
It might hurt someone's feelings, the teachers would s
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.
Some stores were hanging their trees upside down
At others the word Christmas - was nowhere to be found.
Inclusive, sensitive, Di-ver-si-ty
Are words that were used to intimidate me.

Now Daschle, Now Darden, Now Sharpton, Wolf Blitzen
On Boxer, on Rather, on Kerry, on Clinton!
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.
So as you celebrate 'Winter Break' under your 'Holiday Tree'
Sipping your Starbucks, listen to me.
Choose your words carefully, choose what you say
Shout MERRY CHRISTMAS, not just Happy Holiday!



Christians.... By Maya Angelou

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not shouting "I'm clean livin'."
I'm whispering "I was lost,
Now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say.. "I am a Christian"
I don't speak of this with pride.
I'm confessing that I stumble
and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say.. "I am a Christian"
I'm not trying to be strong.
I'm professing that I'm weak
And need His strength to carry on.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not bragging of success.
I'm admitting I have failed
And need God to clean my mess.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not claiming to be perfect,
My flaws are far too visible
But, God believes I am worth it.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I still feel the sting of pain.
I have my share of heartaches
So I call upon His name.

When I say... "I am a Christian"
I'm not holier than thou,
I'm just a simple sinner
Who received God's good grace, somehow!