



AN OUTREACH MINISTRY OF
SMITH GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH
<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
Rev. Bruce Freeman, Youth Director
Home: (336) 996-1501

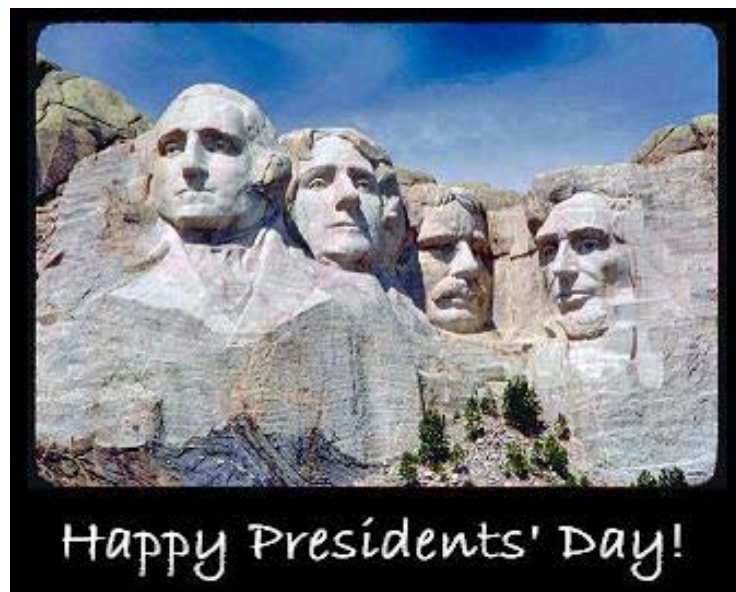
PROVERBS 25:13

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

February 2008

ISSUE 287



President's Day
Feb. 18, 2008

The
Messenger



February

“HEALTHINESS AND HAPPINESS”

“Why art thou cast down, O my soul? and why art thou disquieted within me? hope thou in God: for I shall yet praise him, who is the health of my countenance, and my God.” (Psalm 42:11)

The Psalmist stated that the Lord was the health of his countenance. He stated in the fifth verse of the same chapter that the Lord’s countenance was a help to him. “...I shall yet praise him for the help of his countenance.” It would appear that the Lord’s countenance is a help to our countenance!

The health of a person is mirrored in their countenance. A person’s face reflects health. Pain, worry, anger, fear, and stress are displayed on the countenance. Happiness or unhappiness is seen in a person’s face. Who would deny that lines, wrinkles, and the absence of proper blood flow betray the face of a person under a load of care? Bright eyes, rosy cheeks, and contented smiles many times depict a happy contented person!

God has created man a three-part being. He possesses body, soul, and spirit. Full and complete health will involve health in all three areas of our being. Happiness actually depends more on our personal condition and attitude than on our environment. Spiritual health undergirds a person to the degree that they are able to be content under the stresses and strains of life. The child of God who values and pursues God’s countenance finds help for their own countenance. They actually experience health in their countenance for they have appropriated the Lord in their life to enhance their well-being.

Paul was content, not from his sufferings and surroundings, but in the presence of them. His personal spiritual condition gave him the ability to state, “Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.” (Phil.4:11) David also referenced the happiness of the man who is spiritually healthy. That person has a countenance made healthy by the Lord’s countenance. “Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful. But his delight is in the law of the LORD; and in his law doth he meditate day and night.” (Psalm 1:1-2)

Remember, the Lord is the health of our countenance.

Pastor Chuck Peters

February Birthdays.....

01 Jean Rumsey	18 Clyde Ray Gray
02 Gordon Crouch	20 Gerry Williams
04 Cordell McCollum	22 Ross Cashion
08 Heather Smith	25 Amanda Boscia
10 Cathy Ramer	25 Paul Boscia
11 Craig Hendrix	25 Mark Lowe
11 Debra Pitts	26 David Hayes
15 Randy Foust	28 Kathleen Wells
16 Eric Nuckles	Robin Dean

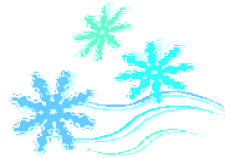
Dwayne Johnson
 Mattie Mae Nuckles
 Debbie Robertson
 Judy Smith
 Tammy Stephens
 Brittany Tilley
 Caleb Tilley
 Chucky Vaughn
 Joshua Westmoreland
 Melinday Whittemore



March Birthdays.....

02 Dana McCormick	10 Karri Koebel
04 Melissa Vanderburg	11 Shirley Crouch
06 Ronda Dudley	12 Ashley Hutton
06 Melanie Crump	13 Johnny Clark
08 Michaela Hayes	16 Kaylee Smith
08 Marvin Pitts	20 Violet Rose Sealey
08 Gary Smith	24 Glenda Foust
09 C. H. Holt	28 Ruth Holt
10 Kristi Wilkey	

Kent Stainback
 Linda Stainback
 Marilyn Donnell
 Michelle Loftis
 Pauline Shields
 Todd Stephens
 Wade Smith

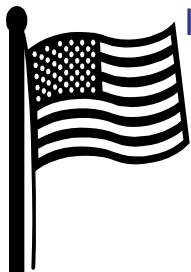


February Anniversaries

Gary & Marlene Holt	Steve & Cheryl Holt
Harvey & Lala Pitts	Wade & Irene Shields
Gary & Denice Slate	

Please remember to pray for those who are currently in harm's way, or who may be facing imminent deployment.

In the Service of our Country



A1C William Holt, US Air Force
 Sheppard AFB, TX
 Chief Warrant Officer 2 Michael Maine, US Army
 [stationed in Georgia]
 Corporal Mel Wright, US Marines, California
 (Nephews of Clarence Redmon)

Ladies' Fellowship

The Ladies Fellowship met on January 8 with seven ladies present. After the business meeting, we enjoyed a time of sharing as how God had blessed in the year we just left behind. Carol brought very timely devotions from Joshua 3:1-8. As the children of Israel passed over into Jordan, we were challenged as to how will we cross over into 2008? The new year brings us many opportunities to set priorities and reflect upon our willingness to let the Lord use us this year. Scripture tells us in verse 4, "...for ye have not passed this way heretofore." We may face things in 2008 that we've never had to face before but may we ever be mindful that just like the Lord was with Moses and the children of Israel, "so I will be with thee." (verse 7)

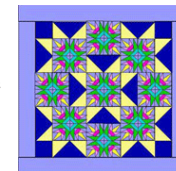
*No, never alone, no, never alone;
 He promised never to leave me, never to leave me alone.
 "Never Alone!" ... Anonymous*

Please join us for our February meeting on February 5 at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Chasity Ramey will be our speaker.

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.

A QUILT

One Sunday after church, young daughter what the daughter answered, get your quilt."



a mother asked her very lesson was about. The "Don't be scared, you'll

Needless to say, the mom was perplexed, so later in the day, when she saw the pastor herself, she asked him what that morning's Sunday school lesson was about.

He said "Be not afraid, thy comforter is coming."

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Smith Grove Seniors

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

Others in Need of Prayer

(In alphabetical order)

Marilyn Alston	Raleigh Hunt	Miranda Petkis
Merl Blake	Daniel Idol	Norma Pilchett*
Roy Boody	Glenn Johnson	Claude Royal
John Carter	Lawrence Jones	Jamie Shell
Bonnie Clark	Bessie Kendrick	Aileen Smith
Aaron Cole	James Key	Eddie Thomason*
Lib Cooper	Leighann Kincade	Barbara Tucker*
Tom Covington*	Beulah Lemar	Kenneth Westmoreland
Louise Davenport*	Rose Matthews	Gordon Wilkey*
Iris Farrington	Richie McCormick	Arry Wilson
Clyde Gray, Sr.	Mark Midkiff	Jessi Wright
Lillie Gray*	John & Dolly Miller	New converts
Debbie Harden	Mary Smith Miller	The Unsaved
Tyler Hodgins*	Pam Neal	*Special Needs

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.
- Rev. Bruce Freeman, Youth Director & Church Administrative Officer
- Preachers, teachers, singers, & workers of our church & Discovery Clubs.
- The Radio broadcast & all visitation programs.
- Our deepest sympathies to the families of Ben Borowski, Shane Beebe, Bob Camp, and Henry Tucker.



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.
Saturday Morning Broadcast [WPET - 950 AM]	8:00 a.m.



February 2008

Sat., Feb. 2, 5:30 p.m. **Winston-Salem Rescue Mission**

Tues., Feb. 5, 7:00 p.m. **Ladies' Fellowship Meeting in the Fellowship Building. Chasity Ramey, Speaker.**

Tues., Feb. 5, 7:00 p.m. **Men's Fellowship Meeting in the Fellowship Building.**

Friday, Feb. 8 **Annual Discovery Clubs' Sleep-over**

Wisdom Teaches . . . William Arthur Ward

“Wisdom teaches: the fruits of silence; the blessings of health; the rewards of self-discipline; the satisfaction of achievement; the responsibility of power; the beauty of nature; the miracle of love; the meaning of friendship; the privilege of prayer; the power of faith; the joy of sharing; the treasure of integrity.”

“Character is much easier kept than recovered.”

Thomas Paine

I Cor. 7:22-24



Gary & Melissa Memorial Outreach Ministry

Greetings from Gary to all those who read our church newsletter. I pray that God is really blessing you and your loved ones, and also our church. We must ask ourselves: Are we doing the things that bless God? From His Word we know that He, in turn, wants to send blessings our way – thank God for His blessings!

As I think about our work in the senior ministry, and look at where we are, I see three churches here in the triad area that are outreaches of Smith Grove Baptist Church. These are very well established churches, with people who attend every week, who are happy to come together to honor and worship God. I need help in this ministry, that other churches can be started in other senior homes. With a full-time job and other activities, I can only manage these three, with special services on Fridays and Saturdays as I can.

We need someone (or a couple) to take over these three retirement home churches so that I can get three more established this year. This is how our church can have an outreach right here in our area, just as a missionary would overseas somewhere. People need to hear the Word, that they may be saved by God's grace – God will be glorified and we will be blessed even more. God will be happy with our efforts, not only the results, but the willing effort. Please let me know if you or your family can help for the cause of Christ.

Happy in the Lord,
Gary Smith ~ I Peter.5:7

Discovery Clubs

The youth of our church are busy with our Bible lessons and fun winter activities! In January, we celebrated the birthdays of Rachael Keedy, Matthew Norman, Ryan Vanderburg, and Austin Russell. February is a big birthday month for us too, as we celebrate with Gordon Crouch, Cathy Ramer, Randy Foust, Maggie Vanderburg, Amanda Boscia, and Paul Boscia. We continue to visit shut-ins on "Singing For Seniors" night, and this proves to be a blessing for everyone! When we visited Mrs. Pegram a few weeks ago, she presented us with a very special gift. Each young person received an "Evangelcube," a powerful fold-up cube that presents the Gospel as you fold and unfold its sides. What a marvelous tool for youngsters who are not sure what to say when witnessing to others – the vibrant pictures are right there, depicting the salvation message. The young people were just mesmerized by this outreach tool, and we are so very thankful to Mrs. Pegram for her gracious and generous gift to us. Equipping young Christians to tell others about Christ is such an important task for us as their parents, grandparents, and leaders. We certainly appreciate Mrs. Pegram's kindness, and we pray the cubes will serve to spread the Gospel to our own children and to those with whom they share their cubes!

The Bible Clubs are continuing their study of the progression of the church in Jerusalem. We have learned about Ananias and Sapphira, the first deacons, and Stephen. January's memory verse, Acts 5:42, reflects the early work of the apostles – "And daily in the temple, and in every house they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ." As we begin February, our new unit will focus on the witnessing of the early Christians in Judea and Samaria. We'll learn about the first missionaries, Saul's conversion, and the spread of the Gospel to the Gentiles. Our verse will be Acts 8:4, "Therefore they that were scattered abroad went everywhere preaching the Word." Join with us in praying that our studies will inspire our youngsters to daily let their lights shine for Christ, that others might see Him in them, no matter what they face at school or at home.

Our Bible Clubs are also looking forward to our annual sleep-over coming up on February 8. Helpers, Watchmen, Warriors, and Champions have together earned more than 2000 points by attending club and church, bringing their Bibles, and memorizing monthly verses. Our fun sleep-over event will be a fitting reward for their efforts!

Our Discovery Teens have been working on a mission project called "Witness Boxes." In a Rubbermaid container, each teen has collected tools and notes to declare the saving power of the Lord. Soon, we will venture to the mountains to scatter our boxes of truth along some hiking trails. Teens have been working on their testimony cards to include, and we will also enclose an empty notebook to serve as a "registry" where hikers can sign and share their thoughts. Our teens hope to touch the heart of someone who is longing to know the Way. Only Jesus can set us on the right path. Our youth are excited about this outreach, and we hope to return in a few months to read the comments that have been left. Please pray about this project with us, that our teens might be touched through their ministry, and that others might come to know God through the simplicity of a box filled with the good news of Jesus. God already knows who will encounter our boxes – may He go before us, melt hearts, and make someone receptive to His Word. We so much appreciate your prayerful support!



"Our Honour Roll"

Smith Grove's ministry to our widows and widowers

"Honour widows that are widows indeed."

Listed below are February and March 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.

Jean Rumsey
8730 Bame Road
Colfax, NC 27235
668-2080 ~ February 01

Gerry Williams
600 Lakedale Road
Colfax, NC 27235
993-8604 ~ February 20

Kathleen Wells
Carolina Commons
308 Meadowview Road
Greensboro, NC 27406
~ February 28

Gary Smith
8644 Adkins Road
Colfax, NC 27235
668-9089 ~ March 08

Ruth Holt
3210 Sandy Ridge Rd.
Colfax, NC 27235
993-3109 ~ March 28

David and Donna Edens

The 12th of November found me in Casa Blanca, Morocco where I had to wait for twelve hours for a connecting flight that would take me to Niger. As I observed the Moroccans going and coming on the streets, my heart was moved. Morocco is a country of over thirty million, and Islam holds sway over them. Yet it is evident that despite their adherence to a religion (98% are supposed to be Muslims), they are still very susceptible to the modern sinful influences that capture the sons of Adam everywhere in the world. In fact, observing them one could not help but see many worldly behavior patterns that evidently come to them from America. In 1996 when we passed through Casa Blanca I carried along several Gospels of Mark in Arabic to distribute. I passed several taxi drivers, hotel attendants and some on the street. Later I learned that I could have been arrested had I been discovered. There are a few Christians in Morocco (about 1 % of the thirty million). Let us pray that God will open the doors for a harvest of souls in that needy land.

Early the next morning (2 a.m.) I arrived in the capital of Niger. One of my suitcases was not taken out of the plane, but went on to Burkina Faso and Guinea. It came two days later, but had been lightened by about ten pounds. Several back-up devices for my computer were missing. But we have reason to praise the Lord, since things could have been much worse. Certain important documents could have been taken, but they were not. Also, our new tapes for transcribing our radio programs were not taken, nor a new microphone for the recording studio. On taking my complaint to the airlines, they did not pay the \$500 claim I filed, but did give me a token remuneration of \$150. There was a comical side to the whole affair. The thief placed an old used pair of trousers in the suitcase; however, they were too small to fit me. Still, I must praise the Lord that in thirty-five years of travel to Africa (some seventy-five continental flights) we have never lost anything until this particular time.

For one week I was in Niamey getting resident papers renewed and following up the suitcase problem. I was also able to tune in to our radio broadcast that is aired on the nationwide FM network.

I most likely also got a good dose of malaria in that week, or perhaps I had never gotten over the malaria still in my system from earlier this year. Pray concerning my health.

Nine days after leaving South Carolina I arrived back in Agadez. I found that we are now under a special mandate of military rule, and not much is going or coming these days because of the danger of running into land mines or being attacked by bandits. We are not able to continue our Bible classes that we usually held on Saturday, since we are not allowed to go the five miles out of town to the encampment where the classes are held.

As we prepare to make new radio broadcasts, I have become aware of several things. Because of the exceptionally abundant rains this past season (most of the rain came while we were away), our translation office building and recording studio was badly damaged. I am not sure when I will be able to get to

the repairs, as the making of new radio programs is our top priority. If we are not able to do the repairs before the next rains (about eight months from now) we will definitely have to move everything out of that building to protect it from the rain.

Back on the 31st of May, a couple of missionaries visiting us along with two of our Christians from Agadez and I visited Abraham, one of our Christians at his home in the desert. At that time Abraham was worried about whether this season would bring enough rain to provide the pasture for his dromedaries, sheep, goats and donkeys. The pasture from last year was already depleted and it was about time for rain again. We had special prayer with him and asked the Lord to supply the needed rain during the coming season to supply for our friend's animals, his livelihood. From all of the reports we hear, God certainly answered that prayer. More rain came to this region than has been seen here in sixty years! And the pasture that resulted is abundant. Praise the Lord, as this will provide for many of the desert dwellers who dare not approach town during this period of war.

Many of you will remember the trip we made to the Bagzane Plateau in May of 2006. After the people of two villages there rejected our offer of Gospels and our witness, we descended the plateau and visited the village of Afasas about twenty-five miles further to the northeast. There we were well received. At least thirty young men received the Gospel of John from us, and invited us to pass the day with them. We were very encouraged by their attitude at that time. Ghali, our Christian friend here tells me that while I was in the States, one of those men from Afasas came here asking for more Gospels. Ghali showed him the Arabic Scripted New Testament that we have had printed since our visit to Afasas. The man was overjoyed to receive it. Ghali was especially encouraged that this man had no other reason for coming here than to obtain more copies of the Gospel.

Since last our writing last month, Ghali's aged father (whose photo was at the end of that letter) has become seriously ill and been brought to the hospital. He is some better, but is still very weak. Pray for him that he may make a definite profession of faith.

At our first Sunday meeting on November 25th we had ten in attendance.

Pray especially for me concerning an invitation to visit the sultan of Agadez. If we accept this invitation, pray that our witness to him may be well received.

We appreciate your prayers and financial backing. Pray with us that God will give us special wisdom during this difficult time of war, fear, and confusion. Pray that above all we may remain obedient to the heavenly vision to open the eyes of those to whom God has sent us, "and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins..." " Acts 26:17-19.

Whatever the difficulties, or the ways in which we may be hindered, "God's Word is not bound."

David and Donna Edens

Christian Love - Christ's Commandment

What's at the heart of Christian love? Jesus said, "By this all men will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:35). John, inspired by the Holy Spirit, once wrote, "We know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death." (1 John 3:14). And "By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God, and keep his commandments. For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous." (1 John 5:2-3).

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus elaborates on this "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" principle. He says, "Give to every man that asketh of thee; and of him that taketh away thy goods ask them not again. And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise. For if ye love them which love you, what thank have ye? for sinners also love those that love them. And if ye do good to them which do good to you, what thank have ye? for sinners also do even the same. And if ye lend to them of whom ye hope to receive, what thank have ye? for sinners also lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. Be ye therefore merciful, as your Father also is merciful." (Luke 6:30-36)

Christian Love - Selfless & Giving Love

Christian love is giving to others those things that you would want them to give you if you were in their situation -- and it's doing so even if they can't pay you back. In fact, it's doing so *especially* if they can't pay you back! Christian love is respect for others. It's mercy. It's charity.

When the King James translators came upon the Greek word *agape* (God's Love), in addition to using the English word "love" to transliterate it, they often chose the English word "charity." This was meant to reinforce the idea that *agape* is a selfless, giving love. God's Love is unselfish and unconditional. Now we know what is meant by Christian love. Now we know what to strive for...

Valentine's Day with Jesus



Jesus does not send perfume
To linger in the air
Instead He sends salvation, sweet
To show how much He cares.



He doesn't bring me candy hearts
In boxes of delight
Instead He always lets me know
I'm precious in His sight.

He doesn't pass out pretty cards
Trimmed in shades of red
Instead He gave His life for me
His precious blood was shed.



He doesn't hand out fancy gifts
Like we would send to mother
Instead He sends a message clear
To always love each other.



He doesn't give me teddy bears
That whimper, "please be mine"
Instead He gave His heart to me
I wear it all the time.

He doesn't give me roses, pink
For all the world to see
Instead He gave eternal life
That's good enough for me.

