

**THE MESSENGER**

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

**VOLUME 34  
February 2017  
ISSUE 395**

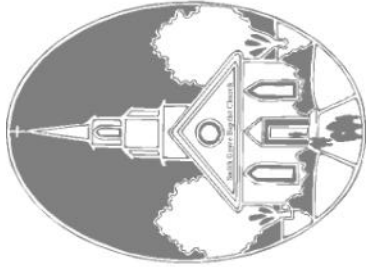
**PROVERBS 25:13**

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](http://www.smithgrove.org)

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*The  
Messenger*



*February*



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2017



**Sat., Feb. 4** ..... Winston-Salem Rescue Mission

**Tues., Feb. 14, 7-8 p.m.**..... Robinwood Retirement Center

**Sun., Feb. 19** ..... **BEAMS' SUNDAY**

John 3:16 - *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.*



**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

Iris Farrington    Neva Long    Clara Ward  
Harry Haynes    Barbara Tucker    Gerry Williams

## Assisted Living/Nursing Home

Rose Matthews    Ann Rayle  
Jo Anne Pegram    Lorene Robertson

*Prayer List continued on  
Next Page . . .*

*Pray for those . . .*

## IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY



**CW3 Jonathan Harless** (Afghanistan)  
**Maj. Robert Harless** (160th SOAR,  
Savannah, GA)  
**Charles Holmes**, Al Asad Air Base  
(Northern Iraq)

**David Laramore**, Fort Huachuca, Sierra Vista, AZ, US Army  
**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



*I love thee to the depth and breadth and height my soul can reach.*  
~Elizabeth Barrett Browning



Presidents' Day falls on the third Monday in February in the United States. It is also known as Washington's Birthday, after George Washington, the first president of the United States. The day is meant to celebrate George Washington and all the presidents of the U.S. It became a federal holiday in 1879.



## BEAMS' Report for January 2017

# of Pledges: 14; # of Contributions: 8 ;  
Total Contributors: 22  
Total Contributed: \$ 914.00 =  
114 Bibles in January (plus some postage)

You can also get the BEAMS' report online at our website:  
[http://www.smithgrove.org/beams\\_ministry.htm](http://www.smithgrove.org/beams_ministry.htm)

### Audio Sermons

Pastor Chuck's sermons are online. They are included in the Home Page navigation on [smithgrove.org](http://www.smithgrove.org) (top of page) -- Audio Sermons button.

## VAN TRANSPORTATION

...is now available for anyone who needs a ride to church on Sunday nights or Wednesday nights. See Jim Laramore if interested.

## COMMUNION SERVICES:

Feb. 26, 2017; May 28; Aug. 27; Nov. 26

*Doubt thou the stars are fire, Doubt that the sun doth move.*  
*Doubt truth to be a liar, But never doubt I love.*

William Shakespeare



## *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."

## Adult Fellowship Bible Class

Our church began a new Sunday School ministry in January, the **Adult Fellowship Bible Class**. This class meets each Sunday at 9:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Building for food and fellowship, followed by a Bible lesson. Jim Laramore will be the main instructor, with guest teachers along the way.

This class is designed to meet the spiritual needs of adults of all ages and stages of life. Whether we gather to pray, study, eat or fellowship, we desire to grow together in Christian faith and love.



### From the Newsletter Committee:

We count it a joy to be serving in this ministry in its 34th year. It is our desire that *The Messenger* will impact lives in a positive way – that God will be honored, souls will be encouraged, and the Savior exalted.

Please pray for each of us, that our respective tasks on *The Messenger* will be blessed by the Master's Hand.

*Becky, Sherrill, & Glenda*

### PROVERBS 25:13

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### Congratulations, new parents and proud great-grandmother, Gerri Williams!



*Lucas Wayne Williams*, 7 lbs 10 oz. - Born Jan. 1, 2017.

He was the first baby boy born this year at Women's Hospital. Congratulations to Kayla and Cody Williams!

### Congratulations, new parents and proud great-grandmother, Lala Pitts!



*Matthan Travis Wolf*, 8 lbs 3 oz. - Born Dec. 30, 2016.

Congratulations to Heather & Travis Wolf! *Matthan* is not only a family name, it is also a name from the Bible! (See Matthew 1:15)

## SICK/OTHER PRAYER NEEDS:

(Newly added names are in italics.)

<i>Ben Alley</i> (meningitis)	<i>Clara Meador</i> (cancer)
<i>JoAnn Alley</i> (hospital - stroke)	Daniel & Mazie Matthews
Melvin Alley	Gary McArthur (malignant tumor)
Dale Austin (leukemia)	Maggie McGee
Lou Badgett	Mary Miller (Health issues)
Eddie Blackburn (Heart)	Darla Parks (Pulmonary infection)
Homer Bowden	Ethel Pendry
Sheridan Bowman	Gene & Oma Lou Pitts
Jeffrey Branch (Car accident)	Allen Priddy (PTSD)
Thelma Bullard	Dean Puckett (Stroke)
Ann Burke (stroke)	Joe Ray
Tammy Burnett (cancer)	<i>Marrissa Rymer</i> (kidney disease)
Kay Collins (Health issues)	Sandra Richardson
Tonya Crews (Cancer)	Alyssa Roberts (double mastectomy)
Dovie Mae Dull (Heart issues)	Tom Rodgers
Olivia Dunn (9-yr-old - cancer)	Justin Royal
Jamie & Jan Estes	Violet Sealey
<i>Lynn Farrington</i> (Health issues)	Ken Shelton (Open-heart surgery)
Diane Foust	Bobby Shelton (Stroke)
Kathy Fulk (Health issues)	Debbie Sipes (Pacemaker)
Sandra Gaither & Family	Betty Sue Smith (Health issues)
(Car Accident)	Johnny Smith
Kim Garrett (Cancer/Crohn's Disease)	Allen Steele (Syria)
Samuel Hall (Health Issues)	Donald Stephens
Carol Hayden	Chara Tate's mother (cancer)
George Hayes (heart)	Sue Uhler (Lung Cancer)
Harry Haynes	Betty Wall (Colon cancer)
Rhonda Hedgecock	Clara Ward
Ricky Hedgecock	Gerri Williams (Recent hospitalization)
Tim Hedgecock	
Joretta Holt (Recent hospitalization)	<b>BEREAVED:</b> <i>Families of</i> 
Reva Holt (Hip Surgery)	Rocky Gentry
Sarah Hudson (CHF)	Bill Idol (Virginia Nuckles' brother)
Sarah Isenhour (Crohn's Disease)	Joe King (Tennessee)
Cindy Johnson (Cancer)	Ally Michele Lee (granddaughter of Dr. Tim Lee, evangelist)
<i>David Kite</i> (stroke)	Don Lemar
Maureen Lamb	
Wesley Landreth	
Clara Farrington Long (health issues)	
Neva Long (Health issues)	

Revelation 21:4 - *And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away.*



## “We Need More Than A Good Sermon!”

“For unto us was the gospel preached, as well as unto them: but the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in them that heard it.” – Heb.4:2

A good Bible sermon preached by a Gospel preacher is a complement to any local church ministry. A sermon of this kind of quality is especially noteworthy if a personal application is made in the lives of those sitting in the congregation. A good sermon becomes a better sermon when the preached Word is mixed with faith! It is true that preaching the Word of God and making much of the Gospel is the kind of a sermon that can indeed produce fruit in the lives of those listening! However, all too often people leave the service with a complement instead of a commitment. The preaching did not profit them.

Israel did not enter into the Promised Land because of unbelief. The people had been blessed with the preaching of good news. They experienced the blessing of deliverance from Egypt and had been taught the significance of the blood of the Passover Lamb. They experienced God dividing the waters of the Red Sea. They witnessed God’s provision of manna in the wilderness and drank of the water out of the rock. They had experienced the Lord’s leading through the wilderness and could not deny His power.

Joshua and Caleb were the only ones actually entering into Canaan land. They had profited by the “preached Word” for “faith” had been mixed with the “preached Word.” Church time is not a time to ask, “What did you think of the sermon?” It is a time to mix faith with the preached Word and leave church changed by the grace of God! Otherwise, preaching will be without profit. We need more than a good sermon. We need to accept the truth by faith, apply it to our hearts, and step into the promised land of a victorious life of faith.

A Gospel sermon concerning Christ’s finished work is the sermon needed by a lost sinner but there must also be a mixture of faith made possible by the Holy Spirit’s prompting. Bible centered sermons are also the need for Christian growth but those sermons need a mixture of faith on the part of the Christian. A good Bible sermon is great but there must be the mixture of faith before it can become effective and productive. “*But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving your own selves.*” – Jas.1:22

We need more than a good sermon as we need more than a good meal on a table. A good meal on the table looks great but we have to pick up the fork and eat for it to help us!

The best sermon is the one true to the Bible and applied to the life.

— *Pastor Chuck Peters*

## February Birthdays

1	Briana Faulkner	11	Debra Pitts
1	Jean Rumsey	12	Joy Overcast
7	Adalyn Shea Tate	13	Joshua Westmoreland
8	Orion Faulkner	15	Randy Foust
10	Madelyn Clark	18	Clyde Ray Gray
10	Parran Crump	20	Gerry Williams
10	Lori Keedy	21	Tammy Cameron
10	Cathy Ramer	22	Ross Cashion
11	Craig Hendrix	25	Mattie Mae Nuckles
11	James Nuckles (70th birthday!)		Brittany Tilley

## February Anniversaries

8 Gary & Denice Slate  
14 Steve & Cheryl Holt  
29 Wade & Irene Shields



## THE BAKER FAMILY

### European & Middle East Field Director

Diane and I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas with your family. I remember when I pastored those 32 years how busy a time Christmas could be. But what a thrill to be reminded about the meaning of Christ’s birth (John 3:16), the miracle of His birth (Isa. 7:14 virgin born- God becoming a man), and the moment of His birth (Gal. 4:4; in the fullness of time God sent forth His Son). Amen!

We began the New Year at Northside Baptist in Mount Airy, NC with pastor Dean Eaton and his dear people. Our schedule is filling up for the entire year. I am so honored the Lord would use someone like me. We still have some dates open throughout the year for mission conferences and Sunday meetings. It looks like we are planning two to three trips overseas in 2017. We are having our first “Macedonia European Conference” in June in Germany. We also will be in Japan with former students from our Bible College. This year is shaping up to be a busy year for us. The Bible reminds us in John 9:4-“I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.”

Thank you for your support this past year. I want to thank Pastor Richard Jones and the people of Faith Baptist Church in Westfield, NC for their generous offering toward the Slovenian Bible translation. The prospect of 2.2 million people having the Word of God in their own language after generations without it is very exciting to me (Romans 10:17).

Yours in Christ,

*Roger & Diane Baker ~ Acts 1:8*



## “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 *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  
336-668-2080 ~ February 01

### Gerry Williams

600 Lakedale Road  
Colfax, NC 27235  
336-993-8604 ~ February 20

### Joy Overcast

441 Mountain View Dr, Apt. 110  
Kernersville, NC 27284  
336-996-7563 ~ February 12

### Ruth Holt

3210 Sandy Ridge Rd.  
Colfax, NC 27235  
336-993-3109 ~ March 28



## A Gift of Thorns

Strange gift indeed! - a thorn to prick-  
To pierce into the very quick,  
To cause perpetual sense of pain.  
Strange gift! And yet, 'twas given for gain.

Unwelcome, it came to stay;  
Nor could it be prayed away.  
It came to fill its God - planned place  
A life - enriching means of grace.

O much tried saint, with fainting heart,  
The thorn with its abiding smart,  
With all its wearing, ceaseless pain  
Can be thy means of priceless gain.

And so what thy thorn may be,  
From God accept it willingly.  
But reckon CHRIST - HIS LIFE - HIS POWER  
To keep, in thy most trying hour.

And sure - thy life will richer grow;  
His grace sufficient will bestow.  
And in Heav'ns morn thy joy 'twill be  
That by His thorn, He strengthened thee.

2 Cor. 12:7  
*And lest I should  
be exalted above  
measure through  
the abundance of  
the revelations,  
there was given  
to me a thorn in  
the flesh, the  
messenger of  
Satan to buffet  
me, lest I should  
be exalted above  
measure.*



From Sherrill Crater: One of my Christmas presents this past year was a beautiful drawing done by my daughter-in-law Dinene and granddaughter Abbey. On the reverse side of this drawing was the story behind the drawing. The Chinese characters for “righteousness” were drawn on the front - the story behind the drawing I share below. *I shall always cherish this thoughtful gift . . .*

## ~ Our Covering ~

When talking about faith in Jesus, we sometimes use words without understanding or explaining them. One of those words is righteous. We say that God has righteousness and that He makes people righteous, but this can be a tough concept to grasp.

The way the word righteousness is pictured in the Chinese language is helpful. It is a combination of two characters. The top word is lamb. The bottom word is me. The lamb covers or is above the person.



The only permanent covering for sin is the blood of Christ. When Jesus came to this world, John the Baptist called Him “the Lamb of God, who taketh away the sin of the world!” (John 1:29). We need our sin taken care of because it separates us from God whose character and ways are always perfect and right. Because His love for us is great, God made His Son Jesus “. . . to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.” (2 Cor. 5:21). Jesus, the Lamb, sacrificed Himself and shed His blood. He became our “cover.” He makes us righteous, which places us in right relationship with God.

Being right with God is a gift from Him. Jesus, the Lamb, is God’s way to cover us.

*Dear Lord, thank You for dying on the cross for me and covering my sins so that I can have a relationship with You.*

**Our Daily Bread Devotional, Dec. 17, 2016**

# “Thoughts and Prayers Are Really Not Enough!” *Pastor Chuck Peters*

We, unfortunately, are living in a violent and crime ridden society where human life has become virtually valueless in the eyes of all too many. Those living today are living in the face of multiple threats putting our lives at a daily risk.

I am thinking of a man and woman who were in our church on a past Sunday morning. The lady was a member of our church, and although she had moved to a distant town she still stayed in touch and would attend services when she could. She had dear friends in our church and she was special to my wife and me. She had a ministry of encouragement to many people. She, in her ongoing kindness, had a habit of calling several people on their birthdays to sing to them the “birthday song!” Her testimony for the Lord was genuine and uplifting.

This dear lady came that Sunday to hear our church Christmas cantata. Our church was happy to see her again and many of us exchanged hugs with her. Did you notice that I previously stated that she “had” a ministry of encouragement? She is no longer with us on this earth for her life ended on her way home from church! She and her friend died in a tragic head-on collision less than five miles from our church. Their death occurred because a young man attempted to illegally pass another vehicle but hit the vehicle driven by this couple who had just visited our church.

Several years ago I preached the funeral for this dear lady’s husband. Now I had the sad task of preaching her funeral! We are all shocked and grieved by her death which seems so untimely! She leaves behind a grieving, heartbroken daughter, along with so many friends. I can’t imagine her daughter and friends who looked at wrapped Christmas gifts which would never be opened by the one who was to be the recipient of the gifts! I can’t imagine the heartbreak that the 2016 Christmas was to this dear family!

This family needs more than simply, “Our thoughts and prayers are with you!” This family needs action along with words. Her family needs an ongoing support structure from fellow Christians that goes further than, “our thoughts and prayers are with you!” Please understand that I am not minimizing prayers, for I fully understand that God’s grace and care are most essential to a grieving family. I, however, am not happy with a mere pious platitude that consists of nothing but words!

The solemn and heart wrenching truth is that this precious woman, along with her friend, could not go home for Christmas! Yes, she is now with her Lord but her daughter is still heartbroken at not having her here! You see, that is a perfectly normal part of human grief for heaven’s gain is still earth’s loss! Yes, we will see our saved loved ones again if we are saved, but we grieve when they leave us from earthly life.

Today we continually hear, in the aftermath of senseless tragedies, the words, “our thoughts and prayers are with you.” Thanks, but we need more than that! This family, for example, needs to know that the young man who broke the law, passed on a double line, and took the lives of our friends is held accountable for his illegal actions!



Yes, we all break the law from time to time but the law is still the law and should be upheld and enforced. Besides, this is an incident involving death as the result of a breach of law!

I also think of the ongoing senseless killings by the brainwashed, animalistic “low-lifers” known as ISIS terrorists. They kill as a sport and do so with a religious mindset. This should alert any thinking person that one’s religion is wrong if it thrives on hatred and bloodshed. Who but a deranged individual, would kill innocent children intentionally and count them as an enemy simply because they are of a different ethnicity or religion?

We, of course, are encouraged because the tragedies will always be met with such kind and helpful words as, “our thoughts and prayers are with you.” Do you note my sarcasm? Thanks, but we need more than these kind words! We need our politicians and lawmakers to declare an all out war on all individuals that intentionally kill human beings simply because of a difference in religion! I am encouraged that our new President means business in wiping the ISIS scourge off the face of this earth.

We as citizens have enough sense to understand that the laws of our land are not perfect. We, however, do have every right to expect our lawmakers to protect us by respecting one simple principle. It is called the principle of honesty. Be honest with the law. Enforce it to include penalty for those that break the law. Even now, there are fifty-some odd families in Germany grieving over the death of loved ones, resulting from another terrorist attack. We are hearing again, “our thoughts and prayers are with you.” Those families need more than that!

I have a suggestion. I realize that this suggestion will go nowhere but I still believe that it is a good suggestion. I would suggest that all Governments of this Planet officially declare war on the ISIS State and unite in going against them and warn them in advance that they have “hell to pay” for their atrocities against mankind! This will put them on defense to start with. Besides, this is a global war, for the terrorists are attacking every segment of the populace who are not aligned with them religiously. So, go at them as a global effort! They have apparently declared war on the world!

I simply would again say that words need to be matched with deeds and commitment. No crooked lawyer should be able to exonerate individuals who take the lives of others as a result of breaking the law. No politician should be able to rest until they assure us that they have our backs against our enemy with more than the words, “our thoughts and prayers are with you!”

My departed friend proved by her life that her thoughts and prayers went beyond mere words. She died as one who had packed her spiritual bags and was ready to go. We feel that her “going” was untimely but know that God makes no mistakes and called her at His bidding and on time with His will. God’s ways are not our ways and the secret things do belong to the Lord including His reason for taking this precious lady home this way and at this time.