



<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 -

2707 Sandy Ridge Road
 Colfax, NC 27235

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

The Messenger



January

What Happened To The Sheep?

Luke 2:15-16

I recently was reading the account of the birth of Christ in Luke Chapter Two. I must say that, for the first time, I found myself wondering about the sheep? What happened to the sheep when the shepherds left them and went to Bethlehem? They literally left their sheep! We read in Luke 15 of a Shepherd leaving His sheep to pursue one that was lost. Here we see shepherds leaving their sheep in order to visit the One Who is not only the Saviour but also the Shepherd.

The angels did not directly tell the shepherds to go to Bethlehem to see the Christ Child. They said, "Ye shall find the babe." They knew the quality of the people they were addressing. They knew that the shepherds would respond to the wonderful news without hesitation. The humble and lowly shepherds had opened ears and obedient minds to obey Divine instruction. The announcement of the birth of Christ was made private, at night, and to shepherds! That glorious announcement was made not to scribes or priests but to shepherds. We are reminded of the words of James, "Hearken, my beloved brethren, Hath not God chosen the poor of this world rich in faith, and heirs of the kingdom which he hath promised to them that love him?" – James 2:5

The shepherds immediately left their sheep to travel to Bethlehem. They simply committed their sheep to the Lord as they obeyed. Change, at this point, was not an option. They must have believed that obedience to the Lord trumped everything else and that God would take care of their sheep while they were away!

We must remember that obedience to the Lord will actually result in "our sheep" being left in the best hands! God will always provide for and take care of His own. We are natured to not like change. We do need to understand that the greatest blessings are reserved for those who allow God to disrupt their plans and dislodge them from their comfort zones. By the time God gets through, the shepherds and the sheep are better off than they have ever been. Hallelujah!

Pastor Chuck Peters

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 26 **January 2009** **ISSUE 298**

In a New Year, everyone needs this list to live by:

The most destructive habit	Worry
The greatest Joy	Giving
The greatest loss	Loss of self-respect
The most satisfying work	Helping others
The ugliest personality trait	Selfishness
The most endangered species	Dedicated leaders
Our greatest natural resource	Our youth
The greatest "shot in the arm"	Encouragement
The greatest problem to overcome	Fear
The most effective sleeping pill	Peace of mind
The most crippling failure disease	Excuses
The most powerful force in life	Love
The most dangerous pariah	A gossip
The world's most incredible computer	The brain
The worst thing to be without	Hope
The deadliest weapon	The tongue
The two most power-filled words	"I Can"
The greatest asset	Faith
The most worthless emotion	Self-pity
The most beautiful attire	SMILE!
The most prized possession	Integrity
Once lost, the hardest state to regain	Trust
The most powerful channel of communication	Prayer
The most contagious spirit	Enthusiasm

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	Wanda Stafford
05 William Holt	27 Dolly Westmoreland	Don Stephens
06 Shirley Ingold	29 Brianna Clemmons	Stephen Vaughn
10 Gary Hendrix	29 Donna Key	
12 Becky McCollum	29 Louise Byrd	

February Birthdays.....

01 Jean Rumsey	20 Gerry Williams	Debbie Robertson
02 Gordon Crouch	22 Ross Cashion	Judy Smith
04 Cordell McCollum	25 Amanda Boscia	Tammy Stephens
08 Heather Smith	25 Paul Boscia	Brittany Tilley
10 Cathy Ramer	25 Mark Lowe	Caleb Tilley
11 Craig Hendrix	26 David Hayes	Chucky Vaughn
11 Debra Pitts	28 Kathleen Wells	Joshua Westmoreland
15 Randy Foust	Robin Dean	Melinday Whittemore
16 Eric Nuckles	Dwayne Johnson	
18 Clyde Ray Gray	Mattie Mae Nuckles	

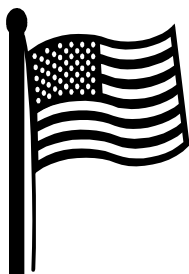
January Anniversaries

Gordon & Shirley Crouch
Tim & Lisa Pitts



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 Damazios



Missionaries to Brazil



Our primary goal as Christians is to win souls for Christ and to train those saved to serve Him in their daily walk. We are very blessed to be given the privilege of developing preachers and missionaries in Florianopolis for the past 25 years, and we are thankful to you for your partnership in this Godly ministry.

TESTIMONY: Tania lost her husband 6 months ago to a heart attack and decided to move from Rio de Janeiro to Florianopolis to start a new life close to her family. She started coming to our regular services and gave her life to Christ 3 months ago. She is now on fire for the Lord and is bringing her Mom and Dad to our services. Tania's parents are part of the Catholic Church's leadership team, and two months ago Tania requested that I start a Bible study at her house with 12 other Catholic church choir members. I ask that you pray for this group of people, because the Catholic Priest is not aware of this Bible study and we are not sure how he will react when he finds out.

FINANCIAL NEED: Our satellite church in Camboriu is constructing a new building. We have all the walls up, but to be able to move in we need to put in a roof and pour concrete floors. We are out of money to finish this project but I ask for your prayers so that we can raise the money to finish the roof and floors before winter. Less than a year ago we didn't have a building or land, so it is a real blessing to have this need today. Please keep this need in your prayers and if God touches your heart, please help us raise -\$15,000.

It is our prayer that God will bless America in this time of need, and guide your new President. I am thankful for having each of you as a partner in this ministry.

Feliz Natal!
Moises & Rute Damazio

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

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



- 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 Maxine McCollum, Raymond McDaniel, Ailene Smith, Emily Smith and Lottie Westmoreland.



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



January 2009

Tues., Jan. 6, 7:00 p.m. Men's and Ladies' Fellowship Meetings in the Fellowship Building.

Sun., Jan. 11, 11:00 a.m. Guest Speaker: Missionary Robbie Mullinax

II Corinthians 5:17-21 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. And all things are of God, who hath reconciled us to himself by Jesus Christ, and hath given to us the ministry of reconciliation; To wit, that God was in Christ, reconciling the world unto himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and hath committed unto us the word of reconciliation. Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God. For he hath made him to be sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

~ Ladies' Fellowship ~

"Happy New Year" from Ladies Fellowship! We trust the Lord will give us a wonderful year in 2009 and we hope to see our membership grow as we strive to serve the Lord together.

Please join us for our first 2009 meeting on Tuesday, January 6, at 7:00 in the Fellowship Hall. We'd love to see you there!

~ The Messenger ~
Celebrating 25 Years of Ministry

The Messenger is celebrating 25 years of publication and we are gratified to think of the many minds and hearts that have been blessed and uplifted throughout this time. Many thanks to those who have served on the newsletter committee throughout the years, and to those who have submitted so many wonderful articles to be shared. *(Thank you, Oma Lou!)*

The ministries of the church have been chronicled within *The Messenger's* pages, and Christ has been glorified - always! Our prayer is that this work will continue for many years to come, and that *The Messenger* will continue to reflect the instruction within our chosen Bible verse: 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." (One of our early committee members, Nora Smith, now a missionary in Virginia Beach, VA, suggested this verse for our newsletter theme.)

*Happy New Year from the current newsletter committee: Becky Redmon,
 Glenda Foust, and Sherrill Crater.*

Do you believe we can take God at His word? Call upon His name, then stand back and watch His wonders to behold. The following scripture gives us, as Christians, the ability to call upon God to heal our precious land. 2 Chronicles 7:14 *"If my people, which are called by my name shall humble themselves, and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin, and will heal their land."*

During WWII, there was an advisor to Churchill who organized a group of people who dropped what they were doing every night at a prescribed hour for one minute to collectively pray for the safety of England, its people and peace. This had an amazing effect as bombing stopped. Why can't we do the same thing here in America?

The United States of America and our citizens need prayer more than ever! If you would like to participate: Each evening at 9:00 p.m., stop whatever you are doing and spend one minute praying for the safety of the United States, our troops, our citizens, for peace in the world, and that the Bible will remain the basis for the laws governing our land and that Christianity will grow in America.



“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 January and February 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.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 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 |
| Hettie Andrews
c/o Mike Andrews
996 DeShazo Rd
Ridgeway, VA 24148
540-957-6119 ~ January 19 | Louise Byrd
2509 Sandy Ridge Rd.
High Point, NC 27265
668-2823 ~ January 29 |
| 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 | |

LAUGHTER . . .
THE BEST MEDICINE

A kindergarten teacher gave her class a “show and tell” assignment of bringing something to represent their religion. The **first** boy got in front of the class and said, “My name is Benjamin and I am Jewish and this is the Star of David.” The **second** boy got in front of the class and said, “My name is Mary. I’m a Catholic and this is the Crucifix.” The **third** boy got in front of the class and said, “My name is Tommy and I am Baptist and this is a casserole.”

I Cor. 7:22-24



Gary & Melissa Memorial Outreach Ministry

Greetings and God bless your new year! I pray all is going the way God would want and that Jesus will receive praise and glory from our efforts.

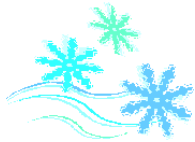
At this writing it's the middle of December 2008 and I am very busy in senior homes conducting special Christmas services until December 26, then it's back to my regular schedule. I pray that God will be in all we attempt to do this year and we will see His blessings upon our efforts. God bless you all!

In Christ,

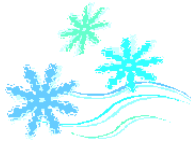
Gary Smith ~ I Peter 5:7

"Casting all your care upon him; for he careth for you."

Another Year Is Dawning



Another year is dawning,
Dear Master, let it be,
In working, or in waiting,
Another year with Thee.



Another year of mercies,
Of faithfulness and grace;
Another year of gladness
In the shining of Thy face.

Another year of service,
Of witness of Thy love,
Another year of training
For holier work above.

Another year of progress,
Another year of praise,
Another year of proving
Thy presence all the days.

Another year is dawning,
Dear Master, let it be
On earth, or else in heaven
Another year for Thee.

—Francis Ridley Havergal (1874)

Discovery Clubs

A big "Thank You" goes out to each and every one of you who have supported our youth group in 2008. From the calendars to the pecans, and Bible School to Sunday School, so many people faithfully gave of their time and money so that our youth can move towards a closer relationship with Christ.

As 2009 unfolds, continue to pray for our students and those who lead them. We want our students to not only have a head-knowledge of Christ, but a heart-knowledge, as well! This can only be done if they are open to Him and what he has for them as His children. Let us all encourage them to Shine in 2009!

Just One Request

Dear Master for this coming year

Just one request I bring:

I do not pray for happiness,

Or any earthly thing—

I do not ask to understand

The way Thou leadest me,

But this I ask: Teach me to do

The thing that pleaseth Thee.

I want to know Thy guiding voice,

To walk with Thee each day.

Dear Master make me swift to hear

And ready to obey.

And thus the year I now begin

A happy year will be—

If I am seeking just to do

The thing that pleaseth Thee.

His Unfailing Presence

Another year I enter

Its history unknown;

Oh, how my feet would tremble

To tread its paths alone!

But I have heard a whisper,

I know I shall be blest;

"My presence shall go with thee,

And I will give thee rest."

What will the New Year bring me?

I may not, must not know;

Will it be love and rapture,

Or loneliness and woe?

Hush! Hush! I hear His whisper;

I surely shall be blest;

"My presence shall go with thee,

And I will give thee rest."

With the unfolding of events in the Middle East, our thoughts go to prophecy . . .

[The following excerpt was taken from the Daily Electronic Devotional of Dr. David and Susan Smeltz.]

Dr. J. Vernon McGee:

Revelation 19: Now we come to the thrilling events that concern us. In chapter 19 we turn the page to that which marks a drastic change in the tone of Revelation. The destruction of Babylon, the capital of the Beast's kingdom, marked the end of the Great Tribulation. The somber gives way to the song. The transfer is from darkness to light, from the inky blackness of night to a white light, from dreary days of judgment to bright days of blessing. This chapter makes a definite bifurcation in the Book of Revelation and ushers in the greatest event for this earth — the second coming of Christ to the earth to establish His Kingdom. It is the bridge between the Great Tribulation and the millennial kingdom that He will establish upon this earth. Great and significant events are recorded here. The two central features are the marriage supper of the Lamb and the return of Christ to the earth. One follows the other.

The hallelujahs open this chapter and the opening of hell concludes it. Two great suppers are recorded in this chapter: the marriage supper of the Lamb and the cannibalistic feast of carrion after the last part of the War of Armageddon.

Now let me ask you, who are the much people? They are the saints who have been raptured. That is you and me if you have been saved.

What is the smoke? That is the burning hell. My friends God is going to judge. Jesus is coming back not like a lamb as He did over 2000 years ago but, as King of Kings and Lord of Lords. Are you ready for the coming of Christ? I am talking about prior to this judgment. Seven years in advance of this Chapter 19. Those much people in verse one are the saints that will come with Him at this great judgment.

Let your praise of God flow out of your realization of who He is and how much He loves you.

Thought for the Day

So many people are so busy going about there every day business. Some will be so busy and so content that when Christ returns for His church they will miss the event.

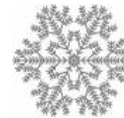
Dr. David N. Smeltz

The New Year

Dear Lord, as this new year is born
I give it to Thy hand,
Content to walk by faith what paths
I cannot understand.



Whatever coming days may bring
Of bitter loss, or gain,
Or every crown of happiness;
Should sorrow come, or pain,



Or, Lord, if all unknown to me
Thine angel hovers near
To bear me to that farther shore
Before another year,



It matters not—my hand in Thine,
Thy light upon my face,
Thy boundless strength when I am weak,
Thy love and saving grace!



I only ask, loose not my hand,
Grip fast my soul, and be
My guiding light upon the path
Till, blind no more, I see!
—Martha Snell Nicholson