

THE MESSENGER

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

**VOLUME 34
January 2017
ISSUE 394**

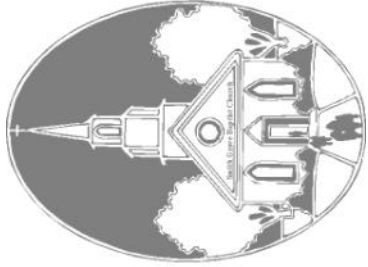
PROVERBS 25:13

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



January



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— HAPPY NEW YEAR —

 **2017** 

Sun., Jan. 1, 11 am & 6 pmEvangelist Cliff Burwell
Sat., Jan. 7..... Winston-Salem Rescue Mission
Tues., Jan. 10, 7-8 p.m.Robinwood Retirement Center
Sun., Jan. 15BEAMS' SUNDAY
Sun., Jan. 29, 6 pm5th Sunday
Singspiration with the Good News Trio
(Doyle Ramey, Gray Swaim and Tim Hunt)



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 (Raleigh, NC—
being deployed)

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



THE UNKNOWN

I do not know what still awaits,
Or what the morrow brings;
But with the glad salute of faith,
I hail its open wings!

For this I know — that in my Lord
Shall all my needs be met;
And I can trust the heart of him
Who has not failed me yet.

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow

We have not wings, we cannot soar;
But we have feet to scale and climb
By slow degrees, by more and more,
The cloudy summits of our time.

The heights by great men reached and kept
Were not attained by sudden flight,
But they, while their companions slept,
Were toiling upward in the night.



BEAMS' Report for December 2016

of Pledges: 13; # of Contributions: 3 ;
Total Contributors: 16
Total Contributed: \$ 688.00 =
86 Bibles in December (plus some postage)

You can also get the BEAMS' report online at our website:
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

"Try not to become a person of success, but rather try to become a person of value." Albert Einstein

"I have not failed. I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work." Thomas Edison



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."

Start the New Year with a Chuckle!



The vicar was standing in the back of the chapel when a small boy came by - the boy seemed mesmerized by the vicar's collar. The vicar reached up and pulled the white plastic collar out of his shirt and asked the boy, "Do you know what this is?" Without hesitation the boy said, "Oh, yes. My puppy wears one, too! It kills fleas for up to three months."

What did the mama cow say to her calf when it was time to come in from the field? *It's pasture bed time!*

As my co-teacher was excusing our kindergarten class at the end of the day, one student came up to her in tears. She couldn't find her boots anywhere and said the pair beside her locker was not hers. We looked everywhere, and finally I asked her, "Are you sure they aren't yours?" She nodded. "Yes, mine were covered in snow!"

Our 8-year-old granddaughter Raven, a city girl, asked to help me cook. "Go get some potatoes out of that red basket," I said. The potatoes had started to sprout, but I knew they would be okay to use. She hurried out but didn't come back. I went to check and she was just standing, staring at the basket. "Raven, aren't you going to get the potatoes?" I asked. "I can't Grandma. They're covered in thorns!"

My 7-year-old, Ethan, was excited about his turn for show-and-tell coming up at school. He asked if he could bring our dog "Fluffy." Ethan has a classmate who has severe allergies to nuts, and I wanted to be sure his friend wasn't affected by other allergies. "Is your classmate allergic to dogs?" I asked. Ethan replied, "I don't know. Do dogs have nuts in them?"

Isaiah 40:31

"But they that wait upon the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint."



SICK/OTHER PRAYER NEEDS:

(Newly added names are in italics.)

<i>Ben Alley</i> (health issues)	<i>Clara Meador</i> (cancer)
Melvin & JoAnn Alley	Daniel & Mazie Matthews
Dale Austin (leukemia)	Gary McArthur (malignant tumor)
Lou Badgett	Maggie McGee
Eddie Blackburn (Heart)	Mary Miller (Health issues)
Homer Bowden	Darla Parks (Pulmonary infection)
Sheridan Bowman	Ethel Pendry
Jeffrey Branch (Car accident)	Gene & Oma Lou Pitts
Thelma Bullard	Allen Priddy (PTSD)
Ann Burke (stroke)	Dean Puckett (Stroke)
Tammy Burnett (cancer)	Joe Ray
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
Diane Foust	Ken Shelton (Open-heart surgery)
Kathy Fulk (Health issues)	Bobby Shelton (Stroke)
Sandra Gaither & Family	Debbie Sipes (Pacemaker)
(Car Accident)	Betty Sue Smith (Health issues)
Kim Garrett (Cancer/Crohn's Disease)	Johnny Smith
Samuel Hall (Health Issues)	Allen Steele (Syria)
Carol Hayden	Donald Stephens
George Hayes (heart)	Chara Tate's mother (cancer)
Harry Haynes	Sue Uhler (Lung Cancer)
Rhonda Hedgecock	Betty Wall (Colon cancer)
Ricky Hedgecock	Clara Ward
Tim Hedgecock	Gerri Williams (Recent hospitalization)
Joretta Holt (Recent hospitalization)	
Reva Holt (Hip Surgery)	BEREAVED: <i>Families of</i>
Sarah Hudson (CHF)	Penny Kirkland
Sarah Isenhour (Crohn's Disease)	Claude Royal
Cindy Johnson (Cancer)	Bessie K. Sloop
Maureen Lamb	
Wesley Landreth	
Clara Farrington Long (health issues)	
Neva Long (Health issues)	



THE UNKNOWN FUTURE

Life is a book in volumes three—
The past, the present, and the yet-to-be.
The past is written and laid away,
The present we're writing every day,
And the last and best of volumes three
Is locked from sight — God keeps the key.



'Twas the month after Christmas,

When all through the house,
Nothing would fit me,
Not even a blouse!
The cookies I'd nibbled,
The eggnog I'd taste...
At the holiday parties,
Had gone to my waist!



I remember the marvelous meals all prepared:
The gravies and sauces,
The beef "nicely rared."
The punch and the cheese balls,
The bread and the cheese,
And the way I NEVER said,
"No, thank you, please."

As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt,
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt,
I said to myself (as only I can),
"You can't spend a winter disguised as a MAN!"
So – away with the last of the sour cream dip,
Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip!
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished,
'Til all of the additional "ounces" have vanished!



I won't have a cookie,
Not even a lick!
I'll want only to chew,
On a celery stick!
I won't have hot biscuits,
Or corn bread or pie,
I'll munch on a carrot,
And quietly cry.



I'm hungry... I'm lonesome... and life is a bore!
But isn't that what January is for?
Unable to giggle,
No longer a riot!

Happy New Year to all, And to all a Good Diet!

January Birthdays

- | | | | |
|----|-------------------|----|--------------------|
| 2 | Adrian Barham | 17 | Jennifer Finney |
| 3 | Jerry Crump | 20 | Stephanie Redmon |
| 4 | Keith Crouch | 23 | Rachael Keedy |
| 4 | Kevin Crouch | 23 | Matthew Norman |
| 4 | Ernie Fulk | 27 | Roger Baker |
| 5 | William Holt | 27 | Morgan Flynt |
| 6 | Shirley Ingold | 27 | Dolly Westmoreland |
| 7 | Corey Faulkner | 29 | Brianna Clemmons |
| 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 |
| 17 | Doris Cochran | | |

January Anniversaries

- | | | | |
|----|------------------|----|--------------------|
| 17 | Tim & Lisa Pitts | 26 | Ernie & Kathy Fulk |
|----|------------------|----|--------------------|
- (35th Anniversary!)*



Your Home ~ A Witness

If you and your household
Were raptured today
Or removed from this earth
In some accidental way.

Are your priorities evident
In the way your home looks?
Would Jesus be comfortable
Reading your books?

Who would be there
To wander and roam
And sort through your belongings
And clean out your home?

Do your magazines reveal
Unwholesome desires?
Do your videos glorify
Murderers and liars?

Would your home be a witness
To the Lord whom you claim?
Or, would the stash in your cabinets
Dishonor His Name?

Will all those people
Who enter your space
Feel the presence of Jesus
Or the world in that place?

What's on your calendar?
Is the evidence clear
That you gave time to others
Not just your career?

Will they want to know more
About the God Who forgives?
Will they reject Him completely
Because of the way that you lived?

Would your CD collection,
If weighed in a balance,
Bring glory to Jesus
Or praise earthly talents?

So clean out your closets
And sweep out your shame
Let your home be a witness
To the life you proclaim.



“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 *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.

Kathy Flynt

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

Joy Overcast

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

Dolly Westmoreland

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

Gerry Williams

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

Jean Rumsey

8730 Bame Road
Colfax, NC 27235
336-668-2080 ~ February 01



This Year Is Yours

By
Alfred Lord Tennyson



God built and launched this year for you;
Upon the bridge you stand;
It's your ship, aye, your own ship,
And you are in command.

Just what the twelve months' trip will do
Rests wholly, solely, friend, with you.

Your logbook kept from day to day
My friend, what will it show?
Have you on your appointed way
Made progress, yes or no?

The log will tell, like guiding star,
The sort of captain that you are.

For weal or woe this year is yours;
Your ship is on life's sea
Your acts, as captain, must decide
Whichever it shall be;

So now in starting on your trip,
Ask God to help you sail your ship.

Walton Mountain Report

Dear friends and supporting Churches I trust this ministry update finds you well. I have been very busy after my prison/jail missionary trip to New Mexico and California. I had planned to come back to North Carolina and resume soul winning in the jails and prisons I minister in on regular basics and even try to open new facilities to our gospel message. I actually spent the first 3 weeks back putting out fires and firming up our current outreach efforts. God is faithful and allowed us to see **27 souls come to Jesus Christ** during November and **13 souls saved** as of the writing of this prayer letter. While getting my car cleaned one of the men asked if I preached in the local jail in that city. Of course I said yes. I had been praying for GOD to allow me to witness to someone not behind bars. God answered my prayer and the 24 year old man who has never been to jail or prison prayed right there at the car detailing place to receive JESUS CHRIST as LORD and Savior, to GOD be the glory. I was able to follow up and give the young man some literature about “what now that I am saved”.

I would like to ask you all to pray as I decide about a new ministry opportunity that will allow me access to more inmates in the North Carolina prison system. The upside to this ministry is more access than I can ever plan to have as a missionary. The down side is I will be working for my old secular employer “Department of Corrections NC”. I have won many souls to CHRIST while working for DOC in the past. I feel led of JESUS to avail myself of this opportunity but plan to pray more and would ask that you all pray with me concerning this opportunity. I will make a final decision before February 2017.

My family is expanding and we have a second Grand baby named “Malachi Nathaniel Blake” born 8/19/16 to our daughter Monique and her husband Marion. I had the pleasure of leading Marion to the LORD back in 2005. So I kind of picked my daughter’s husband for her since I knew him before her, from ministering door to door soul winning! He started coming to the church I was pastoring and the rest is history as they say ☺, to GOD be the glory. Taylor & Tyler will be home from Bible College 13 December, please pray for traveling mercies for them.

In HIS service
Missionary Eric P. Walton

“A TIME OUT CHRISTMAS”

Luke 2:11-14

Pastor Chuck Peters



(Reflections on Christmas Day, 2004)

I will never forget Christmas day, 2004, for I was one of several thousand other military members stationed in the country of Iraq on a combat tour. I was base chaplain at a base in Southern Iraq. The base was Camp Bucca. I, like every other military person, found myself lonely and wishing I was home with my wife and family.

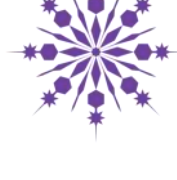
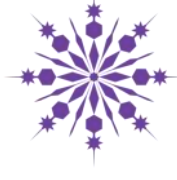
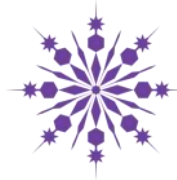
I conducted a Christmas day service at our base and remember my sentiment and emotions as I preached a Christmas message to the troops. I entitled my message, “A Time Out Christmas!” I reflected on how military duty and deployment had removed us all from our usual “back home” Christmas celebration. All of us, obviously, were lonely and wanting to be home but I found something very special about that Christmas!

Although I was on duty and in gear with mission assignments, I experienced a joy and elation unlike all other Christmases! For the first time in my life, I was able to celebrate Christmas without the usual trappings and hindrances of the typical “holiday experience” back home. While I missed being home for Christmas, I rejoiced in my heart over the overwhelming peace of God in my soul and sense of His presence in my life in a land so far away and so different than my own Country.

This Christmas day was spent in an ugly, barren desert without snow, without Christmas trees, without shopping malls, and without the usual Christmas clamor of Christmas at home! Yet, in spite of what I didn’t find in that God forsaken desert, I found what I needed the most. I found Christ as real and His peace as assuring as ever before. Thanks to the Military, I was able to celebrate Christmas in more of a world of thought and reflection rather than a world of noise, activity, and stress!

A child of God has Christ in his/her life and is never away from Him. Geography and a change of circumstances do not eliminate the worship of the risen Saviour. He is alive and His presence is real wherever we may go. My Christmas at Camp Bucca Iraq was special because my Christmas celebration was not distorted and corrupted by a mere holiday approach! The barren and dark desert land lit up to me on Christmas day for the light of salvation overpowered the darkness. I knew that though I was away from home, I was still at home in my Saviour and that was enough for this old soldier!

I addressed the troops with the following words on that Christmas. “Today is Christmas day. Here we are at Camp Bucca and over 6,000 miles away from home. We are away from our families but we are not away from Christmas! We are hindered from a home celebration of this day but we are not hindered from a heart celebration. For us here in this uniform, this is a “time out Christmas” It is time out from the hustle and bustle of our home land. It is a time out from the crowded Malls that led to this day back home. This is a time out from a commercialized holiday. This Christmas finds us reduced to a bare minimum. We are in uniform and on duty work as usual.



This time out could be the best thing that could have happened in terms of the removal of the Christmas baggage to which we have grown accustomed. We all would rather be home but are not hindered from celebrating this day.” (Maj. Chuck Peters, Christmas, 2004)

I then went to the Scriptures and used the thought, “A Time Out Christmas” to make the point that the coming of Christ to this earth was the opposite of a “time out”!

We consider the “Characters of Christmas. I will call them the “Christmas Cast”! They would include: Mary, Joseph, Shepherds, Angels, Magi, and especially, the One born. It was not a time out for them!

It was not a time out for the movement of providence – Joseph and Mary went to Bethlehem on a tax paying mission but in reality on a Prophecy proving mission. Micah 5:2 is an example.

It was not a time out for the manifestation of a miracle – God was wrapped in the robe of humanity, Jesus was virgin born, without a human father, and exempt from the tainted blood line of the human race. We see a fulfillment of Isa. 7:14

It was not a time out for the multitude of messengers – We read in Luke 2:13-14 of the Angels coronation of the birth of Christ. They delivered an anthem of praise. They had been present at creation and rejoiced when God fashioned the world in the palm of His hands. Now they hit the highest note when they saw God, the Son stoop from His throne and become a man.

It was not a time out for the meditation of Mary – She pondered those things in her heart. She meditated upon the message and mystery of the One who was to be born.

It was not a time out for a message of hope and good will – I reminded the troops that we are serving under the storm clouds of war. Nations are at odds with each other. We are at war against terrorism. Satan has also terrorized the human race. Men’s hearts are failing them because of fear. In the midst of this war-torn world, there is hope. That hope is in the One whose birth we celebrate. Handel’s Messiah will become a reality for Christ is destined to reign upon this earth.

I then concluded my Christmas message with these words:

“A time out from stress, from toil, and the grind

A time out from pleasure and a crowded mind

A time out from buying and giving and gain

A time out from labor, from work and from strain.

A time out from a Christmas with just gifts and a tree

While tempted to ignore the greatest Gift on the tree

A time out from business and schedules to meet

A time out from traffic, from malls, and the street

A time in for worship of this Redeemer and friend

Who came to a world with no room in the inn

A time in for a Christmas with a joy to impart

A time in to ponder these things in our heart”