



<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

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 March 2009 ISSUE 300



The Messenger



March

The Quality of the Word of God

Psalm 19:7 “The law of the LORD is perfect, converting the soul: the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple.”

The quality of the Word of God is seen in its unblemished perfection. It is inspired or literally “God breathed.” (II Tim.3:16) The Word is truly “perfect.” No other writing can match its quality. Man’s writings have a tendency to fade in quality because relevancy oftentimes is diminished over a period of time. The Word of God, however, remains relevant. Its message is as timely and pertinent today as it was when it touched the parchment for the first time.

The quality of the Word of God is also seen in its undeniable power. It converts the soul. “Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever.” – I Peter 1:23

I also would argue that the Bible’s perfection is obvious in its divine preservation. I have heard and read the major arguments concerning the alleged problems in the transmission of the Text. Unfortunately, modern times have witnessed an explosion of new translations of the Bible. I have noticed that many Christian writers assume that everyone has tossed aside the King James Bible. It is a common approach to simply quote from the NIV and assume that everyone has switched over. Well, I am one that has not made that switch!

I have been saved now 40 years and have had the privilege of college and seminary training. I don’t claim to have expertise in textual criticism. I can only say that I started out my Christian journey with an old King James Bible in my hand and have no plans of jumping ship now. I still have no problem with holding up this Bible before my congregation and proudly saying, “This is the Word of God.”

Pastor Chuck Peters

March Birthdays.....

02 Dana McCormick	10 Kristi Wilkey	Kent Stainback
03 David Ramey	10 Karri Koebel	Linda Stainback
04 Melissa Vanderburg	11 Shirley Crouch	Marilyn Donnell
06 Ronda Dudley	12 Ashley Hutton	Michelle Loftis
06 Melanie Crump	13 Johnny Clark	Pauline Shields
08 Michaela Hayes	16 Kaylee Smith	Todd Stephens
08 Marvin Pitts	20 Violet Sealey	Wade Smith
08 Gary Smith	24 Glenda Foust	
09 C. H. Holt	28 Ruth Holt	

April Birthdays.....

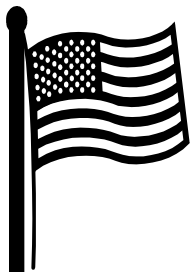
01 Joseph Barham	12 Lawrence Jones	Jo Beeson
02 Steve Holt	12 Beverly Sechler	Charles Cook
02 Carol Nuckles	12 Wesley Smith	Beelinn Damazio
03 Wanda Holt	16 Myles Pitts	Moises Damazio
03 Lisa Pitts	19 Shelby Crump	Torrey Donnell
05 Marilyn Payne	24 Charlene Tester	Lynn Holland
06 Bud McCurdy	26 Chase Ramey	Austin McCormick
07 Pat George	28 Juleen J. Hayes	Erin Mros
07 Larry Tucker	28 Donise Tucker	Dustin Shields
08 Walter Tate	29 Erma Lee Nuckles	
11 Brandy Ramer	30 Ashley Sechler	

March Anniversaries

John & Ann Baker
 Robert & Jo Cisom
 Sam & Sherrill Crater
 Bud & Mary McCurdy
 Don & Violet Sealey



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)

Bible Sales

A pastor concluded that his church was getting into very serious financial trouble. While checking the church storeroom, he discovered several cartons of new Bibles that had never been opened and distributed. So at his Sunday sermon, he asked for three volunteers from the congregation who would be willing to sell the Bibles door-to-door for \$10 each to raise the desperately needed money for the church.

Jack, Paul and Louie all raised their hands to volunteer for the task. The minister knew that Jack and Paul earned their living as salesmen and were likely capable of selling some Bibles, but he had serious doubts about Louie who was a local farmer with a speech impediment. Poor Louis stuttered badly. But, not wanting to discourage Louis, the pastor decided to let him try anyway.

He sent the three of them away with the back seat of their cars stacked with Bibles. He asked them to meet with him and report the results of their door-to-door selling efforts the following Sunday.

The next Sunday, anxious to find out how successful they were, the minister immediately asked Jack, "Well, Jack, how did you make out selling our Bibles last week?" Proudly handing the reverend an envelope, Jack replied, "I was able to sell 20 Bibles, and here's the \$200 I collected on behalf of the church." "Fine job, Jack!" the minister said, vigorously shaking his hand. "You are indeed a fine salesman and the church is indebted to you." Turning to Paul, "And Paul, how many Bibles did you sell last week?" Paul, smiling and sticking out his chest, proudly replied, "I sold 28 Bibles on behalf of the church, and here's \$280 I collected." The minister responded, "That's absolutely splendid, Paul. You are truly a professional salesman and the church is indebted to you."

Apprehensively, the minister turned to Louie and said, "And Louie, did you manage to sell any Bibles last week?" Louie silently offered the minister a large envelope. The minister opened it and counted the contents. "What is this?" the minister exclaimed. "Louie, there's \$3200 in here! Are you suggesting that you sold 320 Bibles for the church, door to door, in just one week?" Louie just nodded.

"That's impossible!" both Jack and Paul said in unison. "We are professionals, yet you claim to have sold 10 times as many Bibles as we could? How did you do it?"

Louie shrugged. "I-I-I re-really do-do-don't kn-know f-f-for sh-sh-sure," he stammered. Impatiently, Peter interrupted. "For crying out loud, Louie, just tell us what you said to them when they answered the door!"

"A-a-all I s-said w-w-was," Louis replied, "W-w-w-would y-y-you l-l-l-like t-t-to b-b-buy th-th-this B-B-Bible f-for t-ten b-b-bucks, o-or wo-would yo-you j-just l-like m-me t-t-to st-stand h-here and r-r-r-read it t-to y-y-you?"

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Smith Grove Seniors

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
Pat George	J. D. Shields	

Others in Need of Prayer

(In alphabetical order) *Special Needs

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

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.
- Scott and Melanie Crump ~ Youth Directors
- Preachers, teachers, singers, & workers of our church & Discovery Clubs.
- Our sincere sympathies to the family of Kathleen Wells.



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.



March 2009

Tues., March 3, 7:00 p.m. Men's and Ladies' Fellowship Meetings in the Fellowship Building.

Sat., March 7, 5:30 p.m. Winston-Salem Rescue Mission

Sunday March 8th

Daylight Savings Time starts -- Remember to *Spring Forward!*

Friday March 20th

First Day of Spring

Looking Ahead:

Spring Revival

Sun., April 26, 6:00 p.m. ~ Wed., April 29

Speaker: Pastor Egbert Craven

Reedy Creek Baptist Church.

America the Beautiful

America the beautiful,
or so you used to be.
Land of the Pilgrims' pride;
I'm glad they'll never see.

Babies piled in dumpsters,
Abortion on demand,
Oh, sweet land of liberty;
your house is on the sand.

Our children wander aimlessly
poisoned by cocaine
Choosing to indulge their lusts,
when God has said abstain

From sea to shining sea,
our Nation turns away
From the teaching of God's love
and a need to always pray

We've kept God in our
temples, how callous we have grown.
When earth is but His footstool,
and Heaven is His throne.

We've voted in a government
that's rotting at the core,
Appointing Godless Judges;
who throw reason out the door,

Too soft to place a killer
in a well deserved tomb,
But brave enough to kill a baby
before he leaves the womb.

You think that God's not
angry, that our land's a moral slum?
How much longer will He wait
before His judgment comes?

How are we to face our God,
from Whom we cannot hide?
What then is left for us to do,
but stem this evil tide?

If we who are His children,
will humbly turn and pray;
Seek His holy face
and mend our evil way:

Then God will hear from Heaven;
and forgive us of our sins,
He'll heal our sickly land
and those who live within.

But, America the Beautiful,
If you don't - then you will see,
A sad but Holy God
withdraw His hand from Thee.

~~Judge Roy Moore~~

The coming of spring makes us think of new life, and there's no more exciting example of this than that described in God's Word:

2 Corinthians 5:17 - *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*



"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 March and April 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.

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

Patricia George
8415 Endicott Rd.
Colfax, NC 27235
996-1606 ~ April 07

On the Lighter Side

A small child walked daily to and from school. Though the weather one morning was questionable and clouds were forming, this child made the daily trek to the elementary school. As the day progressed, the winds whipped up, along with thunder and lightning. The mother was worried that her child would be frightened walking back home from school, and she herself feared the electrical storm might harm her child.

Following the roar of the thunder, lightning would cut through the sky like a flaming sword. Being concerned, the mother got into her car and drove along the route to her child's school. Soon she saw her small child walking along, but at each flash of lightning, the child would stop, look up at the sky and smile.

One followed another, each time with her child stopping, looking at the streak of light and smiling. Finally, the mother called and asked, "What are you doing!" Her child answered, "I'm smiling for God. He keeps taking pictures of me."

Three retirees, each with a hearing loss, were taking a walk one fine March day. One remarked to the other, "Windy, ain't it?"

"No," the second man replied, "It's Thursday." And the third man chimed in, "So am I. Let's have a Pepsi."

I Cor. 7:22-24



Gary & Melissa Memorial Outreach Ministry

Greetings, and may all of you be blessed by the Lord. He is looking for a reason to give all of us a special blessing. Hey, let's be a blessing to someone else, and I'm sure God will bless us! That will be a great way to get spring time love going all around us.

I wish everyone in my local church could have been at Kerner Ridge Senior Home Sunday night. We really had church and the presence of the Lord was in that place. Thank God for the blessings He sends to us as we labor for Him in these senior homes.

I am very busy with work, church, the ministry, and some health problems that I battle on a regular basis. Please pray for me.

God bless you all!

Love the Church,
Gary Smith ~ I Peter 5:7

Discovery Clubs

February proved to be an eventful month for our youngsters! Once again they "wowed" the youth leaders and the congregation with their beautiful singing and the reciting of scripture in front of the congregation on February 23. If you didn't hear them, you missed it! Each student sang their heart out while a number of them recited (from memory) specific verses. Chase Ramey recited the whole 23rd Psalm! Way to go, Chase.

Earlier in the month these little ones participated in the annual February sleep-over in the fellowship hall. Following a fun time at Celebration Station, the kids came back for a Valentine's party, snacks, crafts and a movie before crashing on the floor. Remember those days when snoozing on the concrete in a sleeping bag was fun?!

Our teens have also been busy. We started a mini-series on being a Christian Soldier and the armor of God we are called to put on. These studies have not been without thoughtful questions, though. A few of our teenagers appear to be more and more eager to learn and have those difficult "life" questions answered. Let us continue to pray for them as they use their Bibles to show them the way!

Thank you for your continued prayers!

Ladies Fellowship

The Ladies Fellowship met on February 3 with 11 ladies present. Praise the Lord for this great turnout on a snowy night! Darla Freeman was our speaker and she brought a wonderful lesson from I Peter 5:7, "Casting all your care upon Him; for He careth for you." How do we cast our cares on the One who cares for us? The secret is found in the word CAST:

Commit your burden to the Lord. Give it over to Him Who cares even more than you do and Who has the power to do what you cannot.

Ask for His help in prayer. Philippians 4:6 says, "Be careful for nothing; but in everything, by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving let your requests be known to the Lord."

Search the scriptures. God has a promise for every need.

Trust Him for He *does* care for you.

After Darla's lesson, she and Shelby and Melanie sang, "Does Jesus Care?" What powerful words in this beautiful song

Does Jesus Care? By Frank E. Graeff

Does Jesus care when my heart is pained too deeply for mirth and song;
As the burdens press and the cares distress, and the way grows weary and long?

Oh yes, He cares – I know He cares! His heart is touched with my grief;
When the days are weary, the long nights dreary, I know my Savior cares.

Does Jesus care when my way is dark with a nameless dread and fear?
As the daylight fades into deep night shades, Does He care enough to be near?
Oh yes, He cares – I know He cares! His heart is touched with my grief;
When the days are weary, the long nights dreary, I know my Savior cares.

Does Jesus care when I've tried and failed to resist some temptation strong;
When for my deep grief, I find no relief tho my tears flow all the night long?
Oh yes, He cares – I know He cares! His heart is touched with my grief;
When the days are weary, the long nights dreary, I know my Savior cares.

Does Jesus care when I've said goodbye to the dearest on earth to me,
And my sad heart aches till it nearly breaks – Is it aught to Him? Does He see?
Oh yes, He cares – I know He cares! His heart is touched with my grief;
When the days are weary, the long nights dreary, I know my Savior cares.

Greetings from Niger! *David and Donna Edens*

Baptist International Missions, Inc. ~ P.O. Box 9215 ~ Chattanooga, TN 37412

The winter winds (harmattan) finally reached Agadez and have brought with them cold weather and the many serious illnesses and viruses which usually accompany them. All in our family have been affected for the last six weeks. I was finally diagnosed with typhoid fever, and took medication for this during three weeks. I am somewhat better, but am still not certain that the diagnosis was correct. (Since I had a typhoid vaccination in early 2002, we cannot be certain that this vaccination did not cause the analysis to give a positive reading.) Donna has had bronchitis several times, the flu, and malaria. She is doing some better. Rachel has also had her share of illness.

We had fifteen in attendance to our special Christmas meeting on Christmas Eve. We showed the film of the Gospel Story from Luke which has been translated into a dialect of Tamajaq. All fifteen gave their total attention as they watched and listened for two full hours.

During the Christmas Season we were contacted about a young lady in Agadez who had heard some Gospel programming about Christmas. She asked for prayer, and said that she was interested in the Gospel. She had contacted missionary friends from another part of the country, and they passed her name and phone number to us. When Donna made an appointment with her, she did not come. Since she spoke mostly in the Hausa language she may have hesitated to visit us because of a language barrier. Each Christmas Season there are contacts who express an interest in the Gospel. Pray for them.

Our radio broadcasts continue. Recently we have translated and adapted the gospel tract, "God's Simple Plan of Salvation" into the Tamajaq language, and it is now also being aired on our radio programs. One of our Christians is reading the Epistle to the Galatians onto audio tracks. Several weeks ago we transcribed First and Second Timothy and Titus.

We are preparing a limited printed edition of the Book of Daniel which we have translated into Tamajaq this year. It is being adapted into the Arabic alphabet. We are working on this with Ghali, one of our Christians.



Encouragement has come from several who have received copies of the New Testament in Tamajaq in the past months. One friend gave a copy to his guardian. For days the guardian read. When asked how he was progressing, the guardian replied that he was being hindered because everyone who saw him reading the New Testament wanted a copy for himself. When asked what he thought about it, the man replied, "This is indeed, the Truth, the Words of Life! I believe every word! When encouraged to attend preaching services held on the premises, the man replied that he feared his friends and family.

This continues to be an excuse for many in this area of the world. At the same time we have heard from reliable sources that there are a number of believers in government offices in this country, but they hesitate to openly confess Christ as their Savior. Pray for them.

We have not been out of town for the Bible Study we conduct there for several weeks due to illness. The brethren there have continued to meet, pray and read together however. Armed banditry has also discouraged this. Other alarming reports come to us daily. From a "security" point of view this is just not the safest place to work or even live. Yet, when one hears reports from other parts of the world in these dangerous times, we have a lot to be thankful for. Please pray for the innocent. Many people who are completely unsuspecting are being attacked and killed by those who are armed and frustrated when many of their companions die a violent death from armed warfare, mostly land mines. Because of this many are abandoning this part of the country. Recently a "Christian" organization that has operated in the area for over sixty years took most of their personnel out of Agadez.

Recently someone asked one of our Christian friends how he first heard the Gospel. He replied that he had first heard the Good News of Christ when he listened to a cassette tape recording of a portion of the New Testament in the Tamajaq language. Thank you for helping us to make God's Word available for those who never had the Gospel in their language before.

Thank you also for your fervent prayers for us.

