

## THE MESSENGER

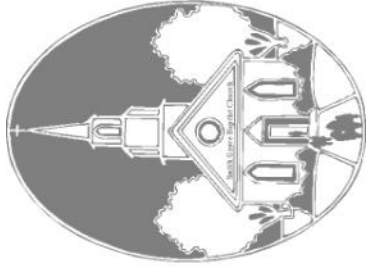
Smith Grove Baptist Church  
P.O. Box 57  
Colfax, NC 27235

VOLUME 38  
May 2021  
ISSUE 446

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)

### 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 . . .

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# The Messenger



May  
2021



**Smith Grove Baptist Church**  
2707 Sandy Ridge Road ~ Colfax, NC 27235  
[www.smithgrove.org](http://www.smithgrove.org)

**Dr. Charles (Chuck) Peters, Pastor**  
Home: (336) 996-8563; Cell: (336) 812-1169  
**Rev. Bruce Freeman, Associate Pastor**  
H (336) 996-1501 C (336) 816-2473

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	6:45-8:15 PM

**Streaming Live:** Facebook  
<https://www.facebook.com/mySGBC/>  
YouTube  
[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj39\\_zpMzkkCXdFYy1NKndQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj39_zpMzkkCXdFYy1NKndQ)

**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 . . .*

## Services ~ Update on "Soft Opening"

### Beginning May 2, 2021:

**Sundays ~ 11:00 a.m. worship service; & 6 p.m. evening worship service in the sanctuary.**  
**Wednesdays ~ 7:00 p.m. ~ Prayer Meeting in the sanctuary. Remember, this schedule is subject to change ~ changes will be announced by Pastor Chuck or Pastor Bruce.**

(BEAMS is always the 3rd Sunday of each month.)

**Masks are recommended** as you enter the sanctuary; we are dispensing with the temperature checks.

**W-S Rescue Mission (Virtual Service)** begins May 7 (first Friday of each month).

[All services will continue to be live-streamed on Facebook and YouTube.](#)



*Happy Mother's Day!*

### 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      David & Carolyn McBrayer  
                  Neva Long              Willard & Barbara Tucker

**Assisted Living/Nursing Home:** Rose Matthews

## IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

**PVT Adam Brittain**, Army, Fort Benning, GA (Sam Crater's nephew)

**CW4 Jonathan Harless** (Raleigh)                      } (Hal & Martha  
**LTC Robert Harless** (Fort Campbell, KY)        } Harless' sons)

**Camren Harrell** (Navy Seal Candidate) -Grandson of the Craters

**E3 Noah Johnson**, US Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral, Cape Canaveral, FL (Henry & Geraldine Johnson's grandson)

**Spec. Jocelyn Laramore**, US Army; Ft. Hood, TX  
(Granddaughter-in-law of Jim Laramore) Pray also for Valentino James Laramore, Jim's great grandson & his namesake.

**CCWO5 Michael Maine**, US Army; Ft. Riley, KS (Nephew of Clarence Redmon)

**LT Katie Moore**, US Navy; USS Independence (LCS-2)  
(Dreama & Darris Moore's Granddaughter)

**SSgt Kyle Norman**, 2602 Westridge Ave W #L304,  
Tacoma, WA 98466 (Sandy Westmoreland's son)

**PFC Trevor Westmoreland**, PO Box 10197,  
Ft. Irwin, CA 92310 (Allen & Sandy Westmoreland's son)



Memorial Day is more than a three-day weekend with a day off from school or work. It is a time to honor and remember our fallen soldiers who fought for our freedom, in the land of opportunity, the United States of America. It is a day to honor and remember all military personnel who sustained wounds in battle or died in battle.

On Memorial Day, honor and remember those who so bravely gave their lives, the ultimate sacrifice. Include the meaning of "memorial" as you celebrate this Memorial Day. Our rights and freedoms are precious gifts that should not be taken for granted.

Together we must recognize, respect, and pay tribute to our American heroes; teach our children the importance and the meaning of Memorial Day; and encourage our children to be respectful and knowledgeable of our country's history. Share your thoughts, with your family, about Memorial Day, and what the holiday means to you. Honor and preserve the memory, of those who have served, as an historical event, by celebrating the true reason for Memorial Day.



## BEAMS' Report for April 2021

# of Pledges: 11; # of Contributions: 4;  
Total Contributors: 15  
Total Contributed: \$ 719.00 =  
89 Bibles in April (plus some postage)

*Many thanks to the Adult Fellowship Bible Class for their ongoing BEAMS' ministry which added \$ 210.00 for postage this month!*

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)

Smith Grove will be streaming Live every Wednesday at 7 p.m. & Sunday at 11 a.m. on [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#) — (You do not need a



facebook account to watch the video on fb!)

<https://www.facebook.com/mySGBC/>



[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj39\\_zpMzkkCXdFYy1NKndQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj39_zpMzkkCXdFYy1NKndQ)

To listen & download mp3:

Audio Sermons Online ~ <http://audio.smithgrove.org/>



## Men's & Ladies' Fellowship

Quarterly Mtgs.: (3rd Tuesdays - 7 p.m.)

Meetings will resume when the Covid-19 threat allows.

## 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."

# 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 *May & June* 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.

### Alta Key

4454 Peace Rd  
Trinity, NC 27370  
336-431-0079 ~ May 03

### Eloise McCollum

8626 Bull Road  
Colfax, NC 27235  
336-996-6320 ~ May 26

### Dovie Dull

1016 Madison Place Circle  
Kernersville, NC 27284  
336-996-6330 ~ May 14

### Oma Lou Pitts

8047 National Service Rd  
Colfax, NC 27235  
336-668-2336 ~ June 19

*Are you or a family member turning 90 this year? Please let Pastor Chuck know so that we may recognize you on your special birthday!*

## May Anniversaries

- 6 John & Stephanie Moore
- 14 Allen & Sandra Westmoreland
- 19 Dennis & Brenda Westmoreland
- 26 Rick & Angela Cornell



- Abraham Lincoln:** All that I am, or ever hope to be, I owe to my angel mother.  
**Irish Proverb:** A man loves his sweetheart the most, his wife the best, but his mother the longest.  
**George Eliot:** A mother is your first friend, your best friend, your forever friend. Life began with waking up and loving my mother's face.  
**George Washington:** All I am I owe to my mother.  
**James E. Faust:** The influence of a mother in the lives of her children is beyond calculation.

*Life doesn't come with a manual. It comes with a mother.  
A mother is your first friend, your best friend, your forever friend.*

# 2021 ~ Centennial Anniversary for Smith Grove

C.B. "Boot" Westmoreland served as choir director from 1947 to 1983. Curt Bame became choir director in 1983 (Dennis Westmoreland, Assistant) and served for many years. Mike McCollum is our current choir director, with Charlene Tester, pianist; Joy Vaughn, assistant pianist, and H.B. Clegg, organist. Jim Laramore coordinates special music.



*Smith Grove Choir ~ June 1959*

*Boot Westmoreland*

*Curt Bame*

*Mike McCollum*



**Smith Grove Choir  
Dec. 2019  
~ 60 Years  
later**

**Choir Director,  
Mike  
McCollum**

*Check back each month for more Smith Grove History!*



We have some big news from Gent Baptist Church! God has really blessed us, and our church has moved into a new building. We have not purchased this building, but have had to move to a new rental property. I want to be transparent about that, and why we made this move; especially since many of you have labored with us in prayer over a new building or have even given toward purchasing a building. The money that is given toward purchasing a building is still designated to that cause, and we are still diligently searching for a more permanent home for our church. As much as this move is an answer to prayer and a cause for celebration, we greatly request your continued prayers for finding a building to purchase. Currently we have only signed a three year contract on this new property, this building is not our destination, but a necessary stop on the journey.

The cause for us having move is really simple; our church had outgrown our previous building over a year and a half ago, before coronavirus had even hit. Since then, like most churches, we had a period where we had to regain stability after the initial lockdown. However God has blessed our church and for time we have been growing and seeing the Lord do a great work here in Belgium. That is to say that our building was too small before we were required to meet social distancing restrictions. We tried to adjust to these restrictions by renting the conference room of a local hotel, four Sunday morning services. That hotel has not been closed since before Christmas; and after scouring the city, multiple times, a suitable replacement couldn't be found. This put us in a hard place, as we have maxed out our capacity, and have been having to hold three different "Sunday Morning" services to allow everyone to be able to be in church on Sundays. Also not having a large enough building of our own, meant not having a reliable or consistent place for the church to meet.

In addition to this, coronavirus has devastated the real estate market here, and also caused most banks to forego loaning money. I went from viewing a suitable building, once a week, to having only found one suitable building in the past five months. So at the beginning of the year, I felt impressed by the Lord to pray about the potential of looking at

*(Continued)*

rental properties; something I had set my heart that we wouldn't do. God however humbled me on this cause, and then brought this exciting property to us. A property that will allow us to almost double the seating of our previous building. It will add to our church several needed facilities such as: a nursery, fellowship hall, entrance hall, office, kitchen, and a much larger children's church. The location is incredible, right on the main road of the community, and one of the biggest roads for the whole city. There are tram and bus stops directly in front of the building, and large bicycle paths all the way from the center. There are three free parking lots, one on each side of the building, and the entrance/exit to the highway is in front of the building as well.

We had our first service there April 11th, and it was overwhelming, how blessed we were by it. I cannot express how excited everyone was, to actually have a church building. Please be sure to look forward to more exciting news, as we go forward in this new location, and let give my sincerest apology, as this letter was intended to reach you a month ago. Now that you are aware of the big news, I hope you understand that for the past month I have worked at least twelve hours a day, seven days a week, between renovating this new property, with the help of our church people, and doing my regular work as a pastor here. [From the editor: Due to print space concerns, you can see pictures of the new building online: <https://www.gentbaptistchurch.org/pictures>]

Thank you for all of your faithful prayers for us. You are a much needed part of the ministry, and will never know how much of a blessing you are to us, at least not on this side of eternity.

With Sincere Gratitude ~ Bro. Junior Haley

*What shall I render unto the Lord for all his benefits toward me?*

Psalm 116:12

**History of Armed Forces Day ~ May 15, 2021**

On Aug. 31, 1949, Defense Secretary Louis Johnson announced the creation of an Armed Forces Day to replace separate Army, Navy and Air Force Days. The single-day celebration stemmed from the unification of the armed forces under one agency -- the Department of Defense.

In a speech announcing the creation of the day, President Truman "praised the work of the military services at home and across the seas." He said, "It is vital to the security of the nation and to the establishment of a desirable peace." In an excerpt from the Presidential Proclamation of Feb. 27, 1950, Truman stated: "Armed Forces Day, Saturday, May 20, 1950, marks the first combined demonstration by America's defense team of its progress, under the National Security Act, toward the goal of readiness for any eventuality. It is the first parade of preparedness by the unified forces of our land, sea, and air defense."





## Be Strong Bible Club & Teens

As beautiful springtime unfolds, our “Be Strong” family has been encouraged to continue our latest series, Journey to Easter, on our weekly zoom meetings. This season, Together Tuesdays began with “Barefoot Night,” when we remembered how Jesus lovingly washed the feet of His disciples before serving them the Last Supper.

The next week brought “Last Supper Night,” when the young people were given clues through scripture, to tell them which mystery items to bring. Mark 14:12 mentions a food, and Luke 22:17 points us to a kitchen utensil... indeed, zoomers showed up with their *bread* and a *cup* as we remembered the significance of the last time Jesus shared the Passover meal with His disciples. As He served the bread, our Savior said, “*This is My body which is given for you...*” (Luke 22:19) Bruce asked us to put ourselves into that moment of the Last Supper, making it personal for each of us. With the sacrifice of a Passover lamb, forgiveness would come, but it is mentioned so often that we sometimes grow accustomed to hearing about the sacrifice that Jesus made for us, almost forgetting the depth of the price that was paid. We were challenged to consider the most precious thing to us... maybe a pet, a parent, or a child. Would we give that cherished person up to save someone else’s life? In His great love, God gave His beloved Son, so that we could be reconciled with Him.

For “Garden Night,” we followed Jesus and the disciples to the Garden of Gethsemane. Bringing along the beauty of spring that we found in our own yards, we shared pansies, violets, new leaves, succulents, and camellias as we looked at the account in the 26<sup>th</sup> chapter of Matthew. Jesus asked His men to “watch and pray,” but three times they fell asleep, while He prayed, heavy-hearted and alone. Even though He saw the shortcomings of His friends, Jesus willingly allowed Himself to be betrayed and arrested in the garden, knowing He would be giving His life for them a few hours later. Likewise, even today, Jesus sees that our “flesh is weak,” yet He loved us enough to die for each and every one of us. While we shared our blossoms and plants, we were reminded too, of lessons learned in a fragrant garden... when a seedling sprouts, it *breaks apart*, and from that, new life is given. When the body of Jesus was *broken*, He was dying that we might live. From His death, we have life.

The next Tuesday afternoon, we delivered snacks to doorsteps, resulting in a virtual Easter party when we later gathered for our zoom meeting. Together, everyone made a craft-reminder of the Lord’s love... a cross holding a crown of thorns, with a banner that reads, “*Paid in Full ~ Jesus Christ laid down His life for us.*” After munching on pink cookies and cheez-its, our youngsters discovered a gift bag of goodies... candy eggs and bracelets with crosses. While trying on our new bracelets, we parted, knowing that, as Good Friday approached, the small crosses on our wrists would serve to remind us of His unfailing love. To prepare for “Cross and Crown Night,” we were instructed to bring something in the shape of an object mentioned in John 19:17-- “*And He bearing His cross went forth into a place called the place of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha: where they crucified Him...*” Mackenzie

(Continued)

# J O U R N E Y T O E A S T E R

A decorative cross made of wood, with a small white flower and green leaves attached to it.

showed us a tiny metal cross given to her by Cleo; Glenda shared a cross inscribed with the word, “Grace”; Addison had a wooden cross necklace from a long-ago egg hunt; the Crumps brought a Christmas cross with a manger scene painted on it; Catherine and Angie shared gifts from their parents... dainty gold necklaces with cross pendants; Jeffrey brought a cross-shaped tin printed with a jelly bean prayer; Marshall showed a contoured cross that fits perfectly in the grasp of your hand; Bruce had a simple wooden cross; and Darla’s cross was engraved with scenes from the life of Jesus. We were reminded that each one of our crosses held a special meaning for us, and we had individual stories that told where they came from. For all mankind, for every single individual, Jesus chose *His cross*, giving His life to bring redemption to our fallen race. This perfect salvation is a gift for ALL... for *whosoever* will accept it.

We closed the Journey to Easter sessions with the celebration of “He’s Alive Night.” Our zoomers watched us prepare “Resurrection Rolls” in our kitchen. As Bruce read the account of Jesus’ body being wrapped in linen, we rolled marshmallows in melted butter and cinnamon-sugar. While we read that the Lord was placed in the tomb, we inserted the marshmallows into crescent roll dough. Just as the tomb was sealed with the mighty stone, we made sure the marshmallows were sealed tight in the dough, then we baked them in muffin tins. We recalled how the heartbroken followers of Jesus must have spent the hours after the crucifixion, hiding out and hopeless. But as the account described the glorious scene of the third day, our youngsters “opened” their own rolls, finding them *empty*... the marshmallow was gone! Our Resurrection Rolls provided a fun and tasty way to celebrate the empty tomb. We rejoice in His empty tomb, knowing that **Jesus is alive**... our Redeemer has risen, and our resurrected Lord lives forevermore!

We cherish each opportunity to share Jesus with the young people entrusted to us. While it’s hard to believe that we conducted our first zoom meeting over a year ago, we are so grateful for the technology that has provided us a way to keep in touch with one another. When we see members of our “Be Strong” family in person, we’re always surprised at how much they have grown and changed since the last time we gathered in the fellowship hall last March. Sometimes, we’re tempted to mourn all that we’ve lost in the span of a year, but we choose to lean on our wise Lord, knowing He holds time in His hands. He can redeem what was lost, and in many ways, our tight-knit group seems closer than ever, despite this season of being apart. This year, He has taught us perhaps more than we even realize. Thank you, church family, for keeping our youth in your prayers. Help us pray... that in times of sickness, they have grown closer to their Savior; that in facing uncertainty, they have learned to trust Him more.

With Grateful Hearts for All He Has Done,  
*Bruce, Darla, and Marshall*

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Deuteronomy 6:6–7: “*And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.*”

# Happy Birthday, Mom

(Written by Pastor Chuck Peters on March 7, 2013.)



My wife emailed me from work today and reminded me that my Mother would have been 96 today. Today, of course, was her birthday. I have decided today to pay tribute to my mom. I must say that there is no deceased human being that I miss more than my mom. I know that it is a human experience to bond in a special way with a “Mom!” I am no exception to the rule. I thank God for both my Dad and Mom. I loved them both. I did, however, seem to be closer to Mom.

There are many things today that I miss because Mom is no longer here. She, in fact, entered into the presence of her LORD on Mother’s Day, 2005.

I would say in a general way that I miss her love, humor, candidness, and lifelong “mother’s heart.” She gave birth to eight children but loved us all individually. She was always candid enough to never make you wonder if she was mad or not. She spoke her piece whether we liked it or not, but she always assured us that she had our back at the end of the day. I find myself missing even more Mom’s candidness at a time when political correctness rules and honesty is treated as rudeness, crudeness, and offensiveness.

I miss my Mom’s humor. I miss her homespun statements, pronunciations, and quick wit. I miss her humor in laughing at herself – like the time on vacation when she was soaking wet from a downpour. She failed to get the umbrella opened, yet held it up as though it was open! She wasn’t mad and nursing a wounded pride, she joined in the laughter. I miss her “mountain” pronunciation of words and statements. Mom was always “pert-in-near” ready to do this or that!

I miss my Mom’s old-fashioned approach in child rearing. She feared spoiling the child if she spared the rod. She “gave it to us” when we had it coming to us! Mom didn’t practice the modern “time out” or “you’re grounded” approach in discipline. We weren’t grounded, we were pounded! It would have been hard for her to ground us when we didn’t even own a car. She couldn’t take away our T.V. time, Computer, or Cell phones. We had none! There were none. She knew that sending us to the room wouldn’t work. Several of us kids slept in the same room. She whipped us, sent us outside and said, “Don’t come back in until you straighten up!”

Today, moms like my Mom would be attending anger management classes or, better still, a class on “what to do, now that I’m in jail.”

I not only miss my Mom’s style of discipline but I miss a society where the family was the basic social foundation of the society. I miss a society where a home consisted of a Mom and a Dad. I miss a society where moms and dads stayed together in marriage and took serious the vow, “till death us do part.” My Mom and Dad lived through tough times. Dad worked like a



“Chuckie”



dog to feed his family. Mom raised eight kids, cooked, and called us all to the table at one time. This is now rare! Mom and Daddy had their disagreements and even “fights!” But, I venture to say, they didn’t accidentally celebrate more than fifty years of marriage!

Today, I miss going home and knowing that my visit was treated special. I miss a welcome that included spending the night in, what Mom considered, still my bedroom. I miss Mom’s homemade soup, pot of cabbage, apple cake, and ice-cream that she made sure the kids picked up from the store before I got there. I miss our going out to eat and her occasional trip back with me to stay a few days. I miss those times when she would go with Carol and me on vacation. She never got over telling about meeting little Jimmy Dickens! I miss driving to see her on Christmas Eve and her childish excitement in opening her “12 days of Christmas” gifts.

Yes, I miss Mom today and realize now more than ever that those days were more precious than I had sense enough to realize. Yes, I was busy with my own life and home. Yes, I lived in another state. Yes, I . . . – It is amazing how we usually learn after the fact!

I do, however, know now a little more about loneliness associated with aging. I have had the God-given privilege of living more than six decades. My life ministry has been a “people-centered” work. As a Pastor, I have spent multiple years dealing with people including associates, strangers and friends. It has been an extraordinary blessing to have the respect and love of dear friends. I do, however, have to say that I have never valued anything more than the love and respect of my own family. I used to take for granted a simple phone call to Mom or a card or a visit. I never really was able to understand that Mom’s later days found her a lonely widow. A simple, “I love you Mom” meant more to her than I then realized.

We will all eventually, if God permits, find that life’s accomplishments, degrees, and medals are poor substitutes for family and friends. Families especially need to honor, love, and cherish time together. Why? Life will soon enough usher us into a world of precious memory. Thank God for precious memories! Memories of precious loved ones take us back to when we walked together and talked together. The remembrance of their voices and love is precious but what we wouldn’t give to hear them again say, “How are you, when are you coming in?”

Well, today I will say, “Happy Birthday, Mom. I love you and miss you. I am encouraged by the fact that I know where you are and know that there are no lonely days there. I remember the night you wept when I came home from church and told you I was saved. Because of that fact, I can say that I’ll be coming home soon.”

*I Love You, Mom.*