

THE MESSENGER

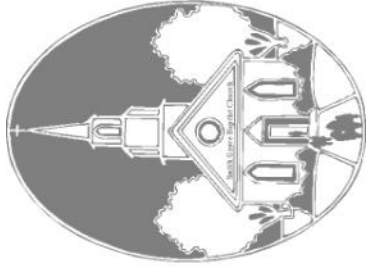
Smith Grove Baptist Church
P.O. Box 57
Colfax, NC 27235

VOLUME 38
April 2021
ISSUE 445

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

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



April 2021



Smith Grove Baptist Church
2707 Sandy Ridge Road ~ Colfax, NC 27235
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

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: Sundays, 11:00 a.m. worship service, and on Wednesdays at 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.)



Thank you for continuing to wear masks as you enter the sanctuary, having a temperature check upon entry, using hand sanitizer and maintaining safe distancing. (Facilities & hymnals are sanitized after each service.)

Sun., April 4, 11 a.m. ~ **Resurrection Medley**, presented by the Ensemble & a **Special Recitation** by Steve Sexton, accompanied by the Trio.

Matthew 28:6 *He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.*

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)

The story of Easter is amazing and profound
With the sacrifice of Jesus, His grace did abound.
God's only Son, He died for me and thee;
Oh, if only this sin-sick world, could open their eyes and see.
He fulfilled the Promise as God and man; he came a baby, in the creche.
And He would suffer the agonies of painful, dying flesh.
He went willingly, though sweat as of blood displayed his sorrow,
That the Father whom He loved would turn His back on the morrow.
God's Son would shoulder the sins of the world, and this He could not view
The penalty of this sin would be death! But not to me and you . . .
Our sins nailed the Savior to the cross, but He did not have to stay
He chose this course, this plan of the ages, in order to prepare the way.
The way to salvation and eternal life..... Please don't reject Him – accept Him
today!
.....Sherrill Crater



BEAMS' Report for March 2021

of Pledges: 12; # of Contributions: 4;
Total Contributors: 16
Total Contributed: **\$ 607.00** =
75 Bibles in March (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

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

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."



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 April and May 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.

Brenda Nichols
1209 Edenham Way
Greensboro, NC 27410
336-292-6354 (Home)
336-314-5509 (Cell) ~ April 11

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

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

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!

April Anniversaries

- 1 Walter & Gail Tate
- 3 Scott & Laura Ritch
- 11 Mike & Becky McCollum
- 14 Larry & Violet Tucker



Happy 90th Birthday to David McBrayer!

March 8, 2021 ~ *May God give you a wonderful year full of blessings.*

As the wind whistles through the trees, we are reminded that life is ever moving forward. We celebrate you on this magnificent occasion – your 90th birthday. May you continue to hear the wind, see the trees, and enjoy the blessings of God. Life is not measured by the breaths we take, but by the moments that take your breath away.

2021 ~ Centennial Anniversary for Smith Grove

FEB. 22, 2021

Congratulations on your 100th Anniversary. My maternal grandfather, CR Smith (Cornelius Smith) started Smith Grove Baptist Church in 1921 and I am the last living Smith family member. I was pleased to read the article in the recent Kernersville News. It was interesting to read about my family's history in establishing this church.

*All my best,
Frances Vance Duggins
Kernersville, NC
(81 years old)*



Mr. & Mrs. C.R. Smith

"Congratulations on your 100th anniversary. My maternal grandfather, CR Smith (Cornelius Smith) started Smith Grove Baptist Church in 1921 and I am the last living Smith family member.

I was pleased to read the article in the recent Kernersville News. It was interesting to read about my family's history in establishing this church."

All my best, Frances Vance Duggins, Kernersville, NC (81 years old)

[Card received by Pastor Chuck, March 2021.]

100th Anniversary Cookbook ~ April 15th is the deadline for recipes & historical photos!

With cookbook preparation nearing the deadline, we would like to have an idea of how many cookbooks we need to order (& that will also be part of the cookbook cost calculation). **Members will automatically receive one cookbook per family.** If you think you would like to order additional cookbooks, please let Stephanie know how many you might want to order. sjobe2010@gmail.com.

Remember: It's not too late to submit a recipe or a Smith Grove historical photo: ~Place your recipe or photo in the folder marked "Recipe Folder" in the church vestibule. ~Email your recipe or photo to Stephanie Moore at sjobe2010@gmail.com. ~Mail to Stephanie's home address:

Stephanie Moore, 9002 Hawkins Trail, Colfax, NC 27235

Please make sure to include your name on your recipe and photo (so the photo can be returned.)

Thank you for your participation in this fun project!...Stephanie Moore



Be Strong Bible Club & Teens

Our young people are encouraged to see that spring has almost “sprung” at last! After such a long and trying year, it seems the blossoms smell sweeter, the colors are more vibrant, and the sunrises hold more promise than ever! We are so grateful to the Lord for bringing us through a weary and uncertain winter.

We continue to zoom with our “Be Strong” families for Together Tuesdays. We wrapped up our “Love and Friendship Sessions” with two special meetings. On “Lift A Heart Night,” we each revealed the secret name we found in our heart box delivered the week before. As we let one another know whose name we had, we also shared things that we love about that person. Our hearts were deeply blessed to see how everybody put so much thought into their comments about their “secret” person... even the very youngest friends had truly heartfelt words to share, and it was touching to listen to members of our youth family edifying one another. After such kind and insightful sharing, there were many smiles and even a few tears. Though far apart, all of us felt encouraged and lifted up after a precious time of fellowship together.

We closed our “Love and Friendship Sessions” by celebrating “Unfailing Love Night,” on which we honored the Lord’s one-of-a-kind, enduring love and friendship. After sharing their own definitions of love, the young people reflected on a new quote Bruce had heard... “*God loves you the way you are, but refuses to keep you that way.*” Jesus longs to watch us grow in Him and learn to love like He loves. Everyone came ready to share a Bible verse about LOVE, and many scriptures were mentioned... Psalm 116:1-2, I John 4:8, John 15:13, John 3:16, I John 4:16, Isaiah 53:5, I Corinthians 13:4, and Psalm 18:1. We looked at one particular verse that simply sums up the reason we can begin to feel even an inkling of pure love for one another and for Jesus: “*We love Him, because He first loved us.*” (John 4:19) Since He has extended unconditional love toward us, we are able to sample His unfailing love and shower it on our friends. Because of Christ, our human relationships should reflect the kind of love that stands the test of time.

The month of March brought a new series to our Together Tuesdays, as we continue to explore the depths of His amazing love for us. We began a lengthy look at the events leading up to the Resurrection story... “Journey to Easter.” We opened with “Barefoot Night,” and the young people had a pretty easy assignment for our zoom meeting . . .

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just come barefooted! Keeping in mind that having a servant heart means giving selflessly, we also shared ways that we like to serve others: helping classmates with schoolwork; advising friends who need encouragement; supporting others who are having problems; reaching out to people who are lonely; using our voices to sing and cheer others; and patiently giving care to aging family members or friends who have a hard time caring for themselves. Service takes sacrifice, and Jesus knows our motives. When we truly serve expecting nothing in return, He is pleased with our actions and He will reward our efforts. Before sharing from the 13th chapter of John, Bruce reminded our barefooted friends how grimy their feet would be if they had walked all day in sandals, along hot, dusty roads. In Bible times, before entering a home, visitors would often have their sweaty feet washed in a basin by a maid or a servant... a nasty task that was considered lowly and demeaning. That’s why the disciples were aghast when their Lord stooped down on the floor before them and began to tenderly wash their smelly, sandy, filthy feet. Here was the Creator of the universe, God Himself, willingly bowing down in humility to care for His friends in such a selfless, vulnerable way... what a powerful example for us to follow! Jesus said, “*Whosoever of you will be the chiefest, shall be servant of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give His life a ransom for many.*” (Mark 10:44-45) Our Lord is telling us that, if you want to be a leader, you’ll first become a servant and learn to lovingly serve your friends and family. To think that Jesus came to serve and to give His life for us! We are deeply humbled by this paradox... that our Holy Lord would come to our wicked world to walk among us—to serve—and to die. With these thoughts in mind, we’re joyously embracing the Easter season, focused on His loving sacrifice. He made it knowing that we could never repay the debt... fully understanding that we could never reciprocate His remarkable gift. There is no sweeter honor than granting our youngsters even a small glimpse of what Jesus has done for them. Please pray that they will grow in Him and emerge from this unusual year, ready to serve Him and give Him their lives.

Rejoicing With You in Our Resurrected Lord,
Bruce, Darla, and Marshall



~What monster plays the most April Fools’ jokes? *Prankenstein!*
~Did you hear about the guy who swapped the labels on the pumps at the gas station? *It was an April Fuels’ joke.* ~A and C were going to prank their friend...*But they just letter B.* ~A couple of pranksters broke into the local police station and stole all the lavatory equipment. A spokesperson was quoted as saying, “*We have absolutely nothing to go on.*”



Praying Friends,

We all realize that we have gone through a very difficult year with facing new changes in our daily lives with possibly more on the way in this year. With no doubt it is an important time for all of us to be in prayer and desiring a closer walk with our Lord. The Corona virus seems to have no indication of slowing its deadly progress. I know several people that have gotten the virus and still have lingering effects after several months. I do, as well as you should, take a more serious view and more precautions than before protecting ourselves. Like many I thought for sure that after a few months the Corona virus infected our country that it would dissipate and life and the work of ministry would continue, at least that was and still is my prayer. I am sure by now you have heard that many foreign borders remain closed to any missionaries returning to their fields. I have been given an invitation by a missionary family working in Brazil to assist them after they finish their furlough and their return in June.

New Gospel Tract: It has always been the desire of Jewish End-time Ministries to expand our tract assortment including having a gospel tract for each of the special Jewish holidays to share the Messiah of Israel and how Christ is illustrated. Even though the virus has hindered mission work we continue to have tract requests. I was asked earlier this year by a pastor friend if we had a tract for the *Celebration of Hanukkah*, to which I had to reply, “No”. After numerous revisions and corrections, the tract is completed except some design changes. After thinking about the Hanukkah tract, I remembered that we do not have one for the celebration of Purim. I now have started composing a tract for that feast. We have also had three of our tracts translated into Russian.

Through the last several months I have received numerous emails that I have been asked to answer from different people having a variety of sincere important biblical questions. Some questions do require a little study. When answering some other emails, I have had to ask myself, “Don’t these people read the scriptures?” One email asked, “*When did Jesus say to pray to Mary.*” Some of the questions are very basic, if they would read the scriptures they would have the answer to their questions. It appears by some of the questions though that some of these people must have either a Catholic or Jehovah’s Witness background.

In previous letters I have mentioned two brothers that I have ministered to over the last three and a half years. I have started a Bible study with them on Tuesdays. After the boy’s Christian basketball season is over I hope to start one on Thursdays as well. Through these lessons I have met four of their neighborhood friends. I have asked them concerning their salvation through Christ. One boy admitted he was a Catholic and went to a Catholic church. Another boy

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stated to me that he prayed when his father was having a seizure that the Lord would take him instead and believes that is salvation. Then he stated to me he believes in reincarnation. The other two teens stated that they had accepted Christ. Because I don’t see these same teens all the time it is hard to explain true salvation with them without being overly assertive or forceful since they have no biblical background. I don’t want to frighten them off. I am doing my best to find out more of their background. The truly saddest part with these teen boys, none have a stable family structure, some no father and/or mother. I just received information concerning the two brothers’ oldest brother that I have ministered to for three years was arrested by the police. He told me at one time that he had accepted Christ but now lives in an unchristian environment and the world is influencing him along with his lost friends.

After sixty-eight years of never having broken bone or been seriously ill and only had A-Fib only once, I will now have to have knee surgery. Fourteen months ago, I injured my left knee coming off a ladder. I had x-rays taken several times and they showed no kind of damage. So, I put off any surgery or procedure for which during that time the pain was not severe and it didn’t hurt all the time, mostly going up or down stairs, but now the pain is constant and it is annoying; I even changed my way of walking, favoring the knee. I have been told my recovery is six to eight weeks. I know of many people that have had illnesses or surgeries of one kind or another - I thought I escaped! I was trying to make it to the rapture unhindered! Maybe the Lord has a lesson for me to learn through this.

PRAYER REQUESTS: A quick recovery; Cuban Border to reopen; Ministry to teens

Shalom, *Thomas Jeran*

§

~“Faith in the Lord Jesus Christ is the foundation upon which sincere and meaningful repentance must be built. If we truly seek to put away sin, we must first look to Him who is the Author of our salvation.” — Ezra Taft Benson

~“A rule I have had for years is: to treat the Lord Jesus Christ as a personal friend. His is not a creed, a mere doctrine, but it is He Himself we have.” — Dwight L. Moody

~“To a Christian, Easter Sunday means everything, when we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ.” — Bernhard Langer

~“Earth’s saddest day and gladdest day were just three days apart!” — Susan Coolidge

~“The cross is a one time visual representation of God’s grief over sin.” — Dean L. Harvey

~“Our old history begins and ends with the cross. Our new history begins with our resurrection.” — Watchman Nee

~“He takes men out of time and makes them feel eternity.” — Ralph Waldo Emerson

Touching Jesus

“Jesus saith unto her, Touch me not; for I am not yet ascended to my Father: but go to my brethren, and say unto them, I ascend unto my Father, and your Father; and to my God, and your God.” – John 20:17

The resurrection and ascension of Christ affords a vital and unique relationship unlike human relationships. Thomas would be invited to touch the Saviour, yet Mary, now was told to not touch Him! We know that prior to His resurrection, Jesus was touched and after His resurrection, Matthew records that He was touched. “And as they went to tell his disciples, behold, Jesus met them, saying, All hail. And they came and held him by the feet, and worshipped him.” – Matthew 28:9

The words, “touch me not” are in a present continuous tense and have the idea, “stop clinging to me.” Or “do not hold me!” He would remind Mary that He could not remain on this earth but would ascend to the right hand of His Father and thereby establish a relationship with His own much deeper and richer than an earthly relationship. Jesus is reminding Mary of the new spiritual relationship that was made possible through His finished work. I think of what Paul says in one of his Epistles. “Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet now henceforth know we *him* no more.” – II Corinthians 5:16

God has made us all social creatures and our nature is made for the warm embraces of friends, family, and spouses. A handshake or a hug is a greeting norm for our social relationship nature! Affection and love are conveyed through the “touch!”

Has it ever really dawned on us that our relationship with Jesus Christ is exceedingly rare and precious this side of the cross? The Christian enjoys a relationship with the Saviour much deeper and richer than human relationships with Him prior to His death and resurrection. Before Calvary, Christ was “with” His own but now He is “in” His own! “I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.” – Galatians 2:20

How thrilling to know that among the lonely throngs of people is a group of people who are never alone for they have more than the “touch” of the Saviour. They have His abiding presence in their life and His assurance that He will never leave nor forsake His own! “He died for me on the mountain, For me they pierced His side, For me He opened that fountain, The crimson, cleansing tide; For me He waiteth in glory, Seated upon His throne; He promised never to leave me, Never to leave me alone.” – Anonymous

Only the Christian has this special relationship with the risen Lord and the new birth experience has made this love relationship possible. The key is salvation through Him. “But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, *even* to them that believe on his name:” – John 1:12 This “touch of faith” results in His abiding presence within the believer.

.....Pastor Chuck Peters



The Crucifixion

© Fran Peck

I laughed and mocked as He walked that day,
up a hill to redeem my soul.

I joined the crowd to spit and jeer,
and I watched His sorrow grow.

I drove every nail deep in His hands
with every sin in my heart.

My rebellion shoved the thorns in His head,
and my strife tore His robe apart.

I used my hatred to give Him a bitter drink,
and I glared down on Him with pride.

I thought of past disappointments,
and with my anger, I pierced His side.

I denied His power and ignored His worth
and stood waiting for His life to end.

I watched the last drop of His blood fall,
not knowing my grief would begin.

I looked around to find His accusers,
but no one was there but me.

I looked at my hands; they were stained
with

blood, and then I began to see.

Conviction slowly entered my heart,
and I dropped all my weapons of choice:

the pride, the anger, the hatred, the lust,
and then I heard His voice.

"Forgive her Father, I died for her.

I paid the price for her soul,

I bore her sickness and all of her pain,
and now I have made her whole."

He looked down on me with loving eyes.

He saw my present, my future, my past.

He knew I needed a Savior,

and my soul had found Him at last.

I looked around to find His accusers,

but no one was there but me.

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.