

THE MESSENGER

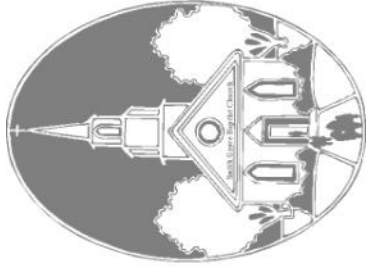
Smith Grove Baptist Church
P.O. Box 57
Colfax, NC 27235

VOLUME 38
December 2021
ISSUE 453

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



December 2021



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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 . . .*

Celebrate

THE

Wonder

Sat., Dec. 4 – W-S Rescue Mission Ministry ~ masks required
Sun., Dec. 5 – Deadline for Donations to the children of Tabernacle & “Tohono O’odham Nation” Mission (John Coleman)
Tues., Dec. 14, 7 pm ~ Robinwood Senior Living
Anything special for Christmas will be announced by Pastor Chuck & Pastor Bruce.

Sundays - 10:00 a.m. ~ **Adult Sunday School** in the sanctuary
11:00 a.m. & 6 p.m. Worship service in the sanctuary.
Wednesdays - 6:45 pm - **Be Strong Bible Clubs** in the Fellowship Hall;
7:00 p.m. Prayer Mtg. in the sanctuary.
 [BEAMS is always the 3rd Sunday.]

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, Germany (Sam Crater's nephew)
CW4 Jonathan Harless (Raleigh) } (Hal & Martha
LTC Robert Harless (Fort Campbell, KY) } Harless' sons)
Camren Harrell (Navy – Texas) (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. Rucker, AL (Nephew
of Clarence Redmon)
PFC Trevor Westmoreland, PO Box 10197,
Ft. Irwin, CA 92310 (Allen & Sandy Westmoreland's son)



Smith Grove is collecting money to help the children at the **Tabernacle Children's Home** and the children of the **Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation** (John Coleman, Tucson AZ) to have something special at Christmas time. Whatever monies are collected will be divided between the two.

If you would like to be a part of this missionary outreach for the children, please put your monetary donation (make checks payable to Smith Grove) in a tithe envelope and write "Money for Children" on the envelope or memo line of check. **Sunday, Dec. 5 is the deadline** to donate. *Thank you for your loving and giving hearts toward these precious children.*



BEAMS' Report for November 2021

of Pledges: 13; # of Contributions: 2;
Total Contributors: 15
Total Contributed: \$ 701.00 =
87 Bibles in November (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:
<https://www.smithgrove.org/beams-report/>

Services will be streaming Live every Wednesday at 7 p.m. & Sunday at 11 a.m. & 6 p.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 Archive Online ~ <https://www.smithgrove.org/audio-archive/>



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 *December and January* 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.

Neva Long
8716 Staples Road
Colfax, NC 27235
336-993-4294 ~ December 19

Bernice Johnson
1624 Mellon Dr.
Kernersville, NC 27284
336-904-0832 ~ December 23

Casandra Mann
800 Quail Meadow
Colfax, NC 27235
336-993-4327 (Home)
336-317-3483 (Cell) ~ January 2

Kathy Flynt
896 Flynt Rd.
High Point, NC 27265
336-668-2500 (Home)
336-880-3352 (Cell) ~ January 7

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

Betty Bame
8610 Adkins Rd
Colfax, NC 27235
336-993-2488 ~ January 30



A Song Was Heard At Christmas

A song was heard at Christmas
To wake the midnight sky:
A Saviour's birth, and peace on earth,
And praise to God on high.
The angels sang at Christmas
With all the hosts above,
And still we sing the newborn King
His glory and his love.

By Timothy Dudley-Smith

Christmas Lights

Bright Christmas stars shine on high,
Golden stars in the wint'ry sky;
Christmas candles in windows bright
Send greetings into the night;
While in our hearts the Christmas flame,
Glow with a love like his who came,
The infant Christ of lowly birth,
To bring good will and peace to earth.

By Marie Irish

Are you or a family member turning 90 this year? Please let Pastor Chuck know if you would like to be recognized on your special birthday!



December Anniversaries

Dec. 23 Waynard & Carol Nuckles

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

3931 WHITE HORSE RD., GREENVILLE, SC 29611
PHONE: (864) 269-2760 Ext. 229 FAX (864) 269-6196
E-MAIL: home@tabernacleministries.org

Dr. Joel Logan, Pastor ~ Mrs. Kathi Sanney- Dir. Of Children's Home

From Our Director, Kathi Sanney:

I know you had to hear the children's screams of delight as our new bus drove into the home parking lot. It is through the generous giving of so many of you that our children can enjoy such wonderful transportation. The bus cost of \$80,639.34 was given over the past eleven weeks. We are blessed!



Over the last month the children have enjoyed being part of our church's annual missions conference. The missionaries did a great job of making their field come alive to our young people and showed true kindness to them as they bombarded them with questions and had their rrpasports" stamped. Wouldn't it be wonderful if one of them accepted the call to serve the Lord on the mission field one day?

It is hard to believe that we are already looking forward to the holidays that are quickly approaching. If you would like a copy of the Christmas wish list for the children, please contact us and we will see that you receive one. Your faithfulness is never taken for granted. The generosity you show makes it so much easier to operate. Thank you for all that you do.

Aurelia, along with five of her siblings, has been with the children's home for four years. She has such a sweet smile and willing spirit. She is in the third grade and is doing a great job with her studies. Aurelia enjoys mothering all the younger children. We are so thankful she is part of our family.



"Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father Is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction. and to keep himself unspotted from the world." James 1:27

Help Wanted - *House Parents - Married couple to live with children and take care of them day to day as parents do. Please contact me at 864-269-2760 Ext. 229 if you are interested or would like to recommend someone.

Spotlight of Needs: Microwave for Relief Building; 3 Vacuum Cleaners; Pillows; Heavy duty straw brooms; 13 & 50 gallon trash bags; Several Industrial Mops.

We're Traveling! October 17 Redemption Baptist Church, Enoree, SC
*Due to the COVID pandemic, our traveling may change at the last minute. I appreciate your understanding.

Dr. Harold B. Sightler, Founder ~ A Ministry of Tabernacle Baptist Church



Teen Update ...

Our teen class finished up the series titled “Understanding Our Parents” this month. We discussed how they can use the Bible to strengthen their relationship with their parents, how they can support their parents, be an encouragement to their parents, and understand the love God has for them.

To strengthen the relationship between a teen and their parents, we looked at the following verses: Matthew 7:1-5 tells us not to be overly critical because we all have faults; Hebrews 12:15 tells us to not let bitterness build up and add more trouble; 2 Corinthians 13:11 tells us to aim for restoration and live in peace; and Romans 12:18 and 14:19 tell us to be intentional about making peace.

To support their parents, we looked at the following verses: Galatians 6:2 tells us to help carry their burdens and to be supportive; Ephesians 6:18 tells us to take the time to pray for our parents; James 1:19 tells us to be quick to listen to our parents; and 1 Corinthians 13:11 tells us to show maturity and begin acting like an adult.

To show the teens how to be an encouragement to their parents, we looked at the following verses: Proverbs 31:28 tells us to recognize our mother for her good qualities; Ephesians 4:29 tells us to speak encouraging words to our parents; 1 Thessalonians 5:11 tells us to encourage and build up our parents; and 1 Thessalonians 5:18 tells us to be grateful for the parents God has given us.

We finished up the series by understanding our Heavenly Father’s love. The relationship between a parent and child is intended to be meaningful and impactful. This is also how God desires to connect with us. Isaiah 66:13 tells us that God promises to comfort us. Psalm 147:2 tells us God brings emotional healing. 1 Peter 5:7 tells us God will care for us. Deuteronomy 31:8 tells us that God will never leave or forsake us. Each of these are examples of how they are to love their own children one day. Understanding our parents isn’t always easy. We must commit to live our lives the way God has directed us to. By doing this, our actions will honor Him and His blessing will be upon us all!

~ In Christ, *Stephanie and John Moore*

(Youth Article Continued)



Our Christmas season has officially begun, with the generous outpouring of shoebox gifts for Operation Christmas Child! Thank you so much, church family, for being such a vital part of this outreach. Together, we packed 18 shoeboxes for faraway children, and we are deeply grateful for your help! Continue to pray that all 18 young recipients will open their hearts to Christ when the Samaritan’s Purse missionaries arrive to present our gifts, along with the Gospel. Christmas is the perfect time to share the treasured, true story of why Jesus came in a manger, and how He was born to die, to rescue sinful mankind.

The recent adventures of the Be Strong Bible Club and Teens have included celebrating Autumn Fest, when we arrived in costumes, enjoying pizza and Stephanie’s cupcakes! Our youngsters have also taken some time to look back over their Bible timelines, to refresh our minds on the historic events we studied before the pandemic. From creation to the fall of man; from Noah’s flood to God’s covenant with Abraham; from Joseph’s mishaps with his brothers to his rise to power in Egypt; from the rescue of baby Moses from the Nile to the burning bush, to the plagues, to the parting of the Red Sea, to the leading of God’s people through the wilderness... God’s hand is evident in every detail of “HISTORY”, and He allowed His plan of redemption to unfold in His perfect timing. As we reviewed, it was a blessing to see how much our children recalled from all they had learned over these years.

While wandering along with the Israelites, we have been reminded again how God provided for His people, even as they complained in the wilderness. How quickly they forgot His blessings on them! We pondered too, the irony of the last timeline lesson with which we left off... the frightening, fiery serpents in the wilderness! As a remedy, God told Moses to make a metal snake and raise it on a pole in the middle of the camp. When the people were bitten by a poison snake, they could raise their eyes to the statue and be healed – the brass snake provided the cure! When we covered this account back in March 2020, little did we know that we were about to face the terrifying threat of a fiery virus that would bring its own dangers in modern times. The significance goes even deeper though. Over 1,000 years after Moses made the serpent statue, Jesus talked about it with Nicodemus when he came asking about eternal life. Jesus said, “As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up.” (John 3:14) That long-ago event was a picture of what was to come... one healing is physical and temporary, while the other is spiritual and permanent. Jesus was “lifted up” to give His life on the cross, to bring us the *cure* for our sin. In this special season of celebrating His coming, it is so fitting that we consider the *reason* our Savior arrived. As we gather around the manger this Christmas, we are touched again by the humility He showed... Jesus gave up the splendor of glory to come and be born in a lowly cattle stall; He surrendered His all to walk this earth in human flesh, knowing the temptations and heartaches we face. And He willingly died to rescue mankind from the stinging bite of sin and death. This Christmas season, as we honor His precious coming, may we all rejoice that He came to give lasting hope to all who lift their weary eyes to Him.

With Love, at Christmas and Always~ *Bruce, Darla, and Marshall*

The Church beside the Road

“I thank my God upon every remembrance of you, Always in every prayer of mine for you all making request with joy, For your fellowship in the gospel from the first day until now;” – Philippians 1:3-5

There stands a church beside the road that
many folks have driven.
This church has stood upon the Word and
pointed souls to heaven.
This church remains throughout the years
committed to its goal.
The Gospel still is sounded forth to reach
the sinner’s soul.



This church which stands beside the road, in size may not be many.
The outreach of this church is large, its ministries are plenty.
Some are called out from this church to preach the precious Word.
Missionaries are supported and scattered around the world.

This church which stands beside the road is filled with precious people.
They find their places on the pews of building with its steeple.
Fond memories flood our minds each time we gather in this place.
Our thoughts reflect upon the ones who now have run the race.

We gaze around the building with its rooms and special places.
We think of all the ones now gone and miss their happy faces.
The message of this church has been the message of the cross.
The standards of this church remain regardless of the cost.

This church that stands beside the road has stood a century.
The mission of the church is clear throughout its history.
100 years has come and gone this church remains the same.
We preach the Word, we win the lost, we praise the Saviour’s Name.

We celebrate the birthday of this church which we endear.
We recognize the grace of God and blessings all so clear.
This church that stands beside the road has stood now many days.
We trace God’s hand along the way and give Him all the praise.

**Written in honor of the Smith Grove Baptist Church,
100th Year Anniversary by Pastor Chuck Peters, 3/7/21**

December 2021 - the Centennial draws to an end



Reflective Thoughts on the Year’s Ending ~ Dr. Chuck Peters

“Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, *even* to the children of Israel.” – Joshua 1:2

We enter the month signaling the ending of another year and, thus, finish another chapter in the yearly book of time. We do so at God’s bidding, for time and our lives are in His blessed hands. We conclude the year with a celebration of an event which constituted the beginning of a mission movement on the part of God that would be completed less than 34 years later on the altar of the cross.

This final month in the year 2021, is consumed with Christmas and the celebration of the Incarnation of God in human flesh in the Virgin birth of Jesus Christ. Worthy is this celebration for the redemption of lost sinners required the redemptive plan of His Virgin birth, vicarious death, and victorious resurrection. Yes, as we all know, the true celebration of Christmas is a celebration with Christ at the center and a focus upon the Biblical event and purpose rather than the pressurized trappings of a commercialized Holiday!

The Birth of Christ was somewhat of a Chapter One which began with what had to be finished with another Chapter pertaining to His finished work. He was born to die. The Book of redemption must be completed and thank God it was. The Chapter on Christmas would later include the Chapter on Easter. The focus upon the Babe in the manger would shift to the focus upon the victorious risen Lord!

The ending of 2021 includes the celebration of Christmas, marking the beginning of the redemption plan and also the signal of a new year. The year 2021 closes another chapter of life’s history as well as church history and, specifically, the history of this local church. We end the year which constituted our 100-year anniversary year and did so with reflection and gratitude for our church history of God’s blessings and leadership. We praise God for our 100-year chapter of local church ministry and now turn the page to another chapter! Our work is not only *not over*, but includes now the challenge of land to be conquered! By way of application, as the death of Moses meant the challenge of claiming new land, the closing of this church chapter means the claiming of new land for the glory of God. We, as a church, are to “arise and go over Jordan!” We end 2021 by closing a good chapter and, by faith, trusting God for a new year and new chapter.

May God bless each of you with a wonderful Christ honoring Christmas and a New Year filled with the happiness of a walk with God. I would be remiss if I did not mention that the walk with God begins with salvation through Jesus Christ. Christmas then is celebrated from a redeemed heart and that makes Christmas really special!

1921~2021 Celebrating 100 Years!

*As we reach the end of our Centennial Year, Smith Grove Honors our Oldest Member ~ Neva Long
(Born Lillie Geneva Westmoreland ~ Dec. 19, 1919) ~ Approaching her 102nd Birthday!*

Neva has a rich history of serving the Lord in the Sandy Ridge Community. She and her sister, Hettie, as teenagers, would travel with Ben Farrington as he preached in various places and sang as a duet. Neva was also active in Smith Grove Baptist Church for nearly all of her 102 years, with the exception of her very short married life, when their little family lived away from Colfax for a few years.

Parran Long and Neva (Geneva) Westmoreland were married in 1939 and lived in various nearby areas until moving back to Colfax in 1954. Neva returned to her parents' home, faithfully caring for them and raising her daughters. Neva, Geraldine and Shelby sang for Cordell McCollum on his radio broadcast every Saturday for a few years. (At WPET in Greensboro and at WTNC in Thomasville.) After Geraldine got married, Hettie, Neva, and Shelby continued to sing on Cordell's program. Another interesting piece of history: Shelby recalls that, at the same time they sang for Cordell, Annie and Clyde Nuckles sang for Johnny Long, and Boot and Mary Lee Westmoreland, (and Becky and Jo) sang for Dealis Long. Shelby remembers them all being at the studio at the same time. *What a legacy we have at Smith Grove Baptist Church!*

Historically, Neva is listed in the church records as one of 185 members in October 1939 by Church Clerk Dovie Clark. *Neva truly has had a lifetime of Christian service.*

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Early Years with husband, Parran Long



Parran, Neva, Geraldine, & Shelby



Neva with sister Ruth Holt



Neva with Clara Morgan



Neva & Grandchildren ~ 1972



May 14, 2017



Presented on October 17, 2021