

## THE MESSENGER

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

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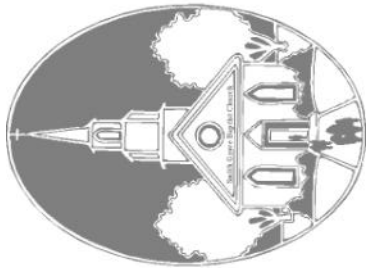
### PROVERBS 25:13

As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him, for he refresheth the soul of his masters . . .

Sunday School 10:00 AM  
Morning Worship 11:00 AM  
Children's Church 11:15 AM  
Evening Worship 6:00 PM  
Wednesday Service 7:00 PM  
Bible Clubs 7:00 PM  
Thursday Visitation 7:00 PM

~ NURSERY PROVIDED ~  
2707 Sandy Ridge Road  
Colfax, NC 27235

Dr. Charles (Chuck) Peters, Pastor  
Home: (336) 996-8563  
Cell: (336) 812-1169



[www.smithgrove.org](http://www.smithgrove.org)

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## The Messenger



March  
2023



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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 . . .*



May the road rise to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face.  
And rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again,  
May God hold you in the hollow of His hand.

Sat., Mar. 4, 6 pm - W-S Rescue Mission  
Sun., Mar. 5 ~ **First Day for donations for the Teen Craft & Rummage Sale Fundraiser.** (Boxes are in the vestibule.) Details, Pg. 4  
Sun., Mar. 12, *Daylight Saving Time Begins ~ Spring Forward!*  
Sun., Mar. 12, 6 pm ~ **Dave Kelly, Guest Speaker**  
Sun., Mar. 19 ~ **BEAMS Sunday**  
**Every Monday, 3 pm, Robinwood Retirement Ctr. ~ Bible Study**  
(BEAMS is always the 3rd Sunday of every month.)

### 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:** Betty Byrd Iris Farrington Carolyn McBrayer

## IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

**PVT Adam Brittain**, Army, Germany (Sam Crater's nephew)  
**SGT. Eric Compton**, Army, Ft. Stewart, GA (Doug Slate's grandson)  
**CW4 Jonathan Harless** (Raleigh) } (Hal & Martha  
**LTC Robert Harless** (Washington, DC) } Harless' sons)  
**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; Fort Rucker, AL  
(Nephew of Clarence Redmon)  
**SSGT Trevor Westmoreland**, Army, Fort Benning, GA  
(Allen & Sandy Westmoreland's son)



## A Letter a Day with a Verse to Stay

*This is a devotional series from Pastor Chuck which takes us through the alphabet each month.*



**"Nothing"**~ "For with God nothing shall be impossible." –  
Luke 1:37

The incarnation of Christ in human flesh was purposeful for our redemption and miraculous. Mary was told that she would give birth in this miraculous way for Jesus was to be conceived by the Holy Ghost and was without a biological human father. Mary was assured that the child would be born in spite of the improbabilities from the human standpoint, for God is omnipotent and acts beyond the human realm. Nothing is impossible with God!

It would do us all well to realize this truth at all times and in spite of all that we face in this world. Our human inabilities and human reasoning is not the proper standard for understanding what God can do! He, the Almighty, is Creator and Sustainer of life and He works outside of the realm of human physical limitations. If God could be understood, He would not be God for His doings exceed our comprehensions. "Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us," – Ephesians 3:20



## BEAMS' Report for February 2023

# of Pledges: 9; # of Contributions: 5;

Total Contributors: 14

Total Contributed: \$ 665.00 =

83 Bibles in February (plus some postage)

*Many thanks to all those who gave monies to the BEAMS' ministry specifically for postage which added \$ 170.00 in February!*

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](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.)

*Future Meeting times to be announced.*

*May this St. Patrick's Day find you with green  
in your pocket, and Spring in your step!*



## 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, widowers, & senior singles**  
"Honour widows that are widows indeed."  
(1 Timothy 5:3)

This is a continuing churchwide ministry to remember **widows, widowers, and senior singles** of the church in a meaningful way. Each month, we highlight our special "Honour Roll Gang Members" who are having birthdays. Listed below are *March (none in 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.

**Ruth Holt**  
3210 Sandy Ridge Rd.  
Colfax, NC 27235  
336-993-3109 ~ March 28



*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!*

#### DID YOU KNOW?

#### A few Historical events in the month of March by day:

- ~ 1 - 1790 - The U.S. Supreme Court convenes for the first time.
- ~ 1 - 1872 - Yellowstone becomes the U.S.'s first national park.
- ~ 2 - 1887 - The first Ground Hog Day is observed in Punxsutawney- PA
- ~ 3 - 1791 - Congress establishes the U.S. Mint.
- ~ 4 - 1789 - The Constitution of the United States of America goes into effect.
- ~ 7 - 1876 - Alexander Graham Bell patents the Telephone.
- ~ 10 - 1862 - The U.S. government issues paper money for the first time.
- ~ 12 - 1912 - Girl Scouts were founded by Juliette Low of Savannah, GA.
- ~ 13 - 1936 - Work on the Boulder dam is completed.
- ~ 19 - 1918 - Congress approves Daylight Saving Time
- ~ 25 - 1954 - RCA manufactures the first color television.
- ~ 28- 1797 - Nathaniel Briggs patents the washing machine.
- ~ 28- 1866 - The first ambulance goes into service.
- ~ 29- 1886 - Coca Cola is invented.
- ~ 30- 1842 - Ether is used as an anesthesia for the first time
- ~ 30- 1858 - A pencil with an eraser is patented by Hyman Lipman

#### March Anniversaries

18 Sam & Sherrill Crater  
27 Donnie & Mary Campbell



## 25 Years of Service ...

### ~ Dedication & Patriotism



During the nearly 25 years that Pastor Chuck has served as Smith Grove's spiritual leader, he never forgot his sacred vow to the Savior, nor did he forget his heartfelt allegiance to the country he loves.

In March 2003, U.S. forces invaded Iraq vowing to destroy Iraqi weapons of mass destruction and end the dictatorial rule of Saddam Hussein. This was a direct result of the thousands of lives lost in the World Trade Center in New York City on Sept. 11, 2001.

In 2004, our pastor received the call to return to active duty and deploy to serve in Iraq during this dangerous time of armed conflict. Without undue hesitation, after assuring that his congregation supported his decision, he answered the call, and served his country as Chaplain to



spiritually needy troops who, along with our pastor, were risking their lives in defense of their country. (2004 & 2005)

Our pastor felt very strongly that God wanted him to do his part to provide spiritual guidance to the troops, and to provide whatever service was needed to protect the freedom of the United States of America.

We are all very proud of the sacrifices that he and sister Carol made in order for him to fulfill his mission. (And as you can see, Pastor Chuck didn't miss a beat in his quest to write a million articles and poems – even in the desert!) ☺



We are also very grateful to Assoc. Pastor Bruce Freeman who stepped in and assumed the role of pastor in Pastor Chuck's absence. He did an amazing job of keeping everything going, and we praise the Lord for his leadership during this difficult time. Thank you, Pastor Bruce!

*Thank you, Pastor Chuck and Carol, for your willingness to serve!*



Smith Grove Baptist Church  
Teen Craft and Rummage Sale  
Fundraiser  
Saturday, April 29, 2023  
8 AM – 12 PM



Are your closets and cabinets overflowing with things you no longer need? Do you have too many knickknacks lying around the house? Is your garage in need of a clean-out? Do you want to sell your beautiful handmade crafts?

If you answered Yes to any of these questions, we want to help!  
~Rent a table for \$20.00 to sell your unwanted items or crafts, or donate your unwanted items, and our teens will sell them.

~Funds from table rentals and donated items will go towards their Christmas gift ministry to buy Christmas gifts for the Tabernacle Children's Home and the Tohono O'odham Indian Reservation (Brother John Coleman).

**Items Accepted – Must be clean and in good condition:**

Gently worn clothing and shoes  
Handbags  
Books  
Toys and Games  
Bikes  
Tools  
Home Décor and artwork  
Small household appliances and electronics – must be in working condition  
Furniture (you must be able to bring it yourself Friday, 4/28 from 4pm to 8pm)  
Sports equipment and camping gear  
Collectibles  
CDs and DVDs



**Items Not Accepted:** Drinking glasses, mugs, china sets, plates, computers, treadmills, stationary bikes, elliptical machines, used candles, stained or torn clothing, mattresses, cribs, car seats, bedding, stuffed animals, or broken items.

*Donated items can be placed in boxes located in the vestibule starting Sunday, March 5.*

*Items can also be dropped off at the fellowship hall on Friday, April 28 from 4 pm to 6pm.*

If you have questions or are interested in renting a table, please see any teen or Stephanie Moore. *Thank you for your continued support!*

(Unsold items will be donated to the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission Thrift Store after the sale.)

## Howard Miller & Family ~ Philippines

**John 12:26** "If any man serve me, let him follow me; and where I am, there shall also my servant be: if any man serve me, him will my Father honour",

I pray that this letter will bring joy and encouragement to you and those you share it with. First of all, we are thanking God for all His marvelous work here in the mission field. As we looked back a yr. ago at how God blessed us with land and a church building at the same time, we also prayed for the church to have its own water supply, and God has mightily proved it time and time again. The deep well project was finished on Jan 13th of this year, and I was able to renew my visa as well this January. I'm now waiting for the approval notice. Please pray that there'll be no problem while the process is ongoing. We are thanking God for using our mission board to help us make our prayers possible through you.

Thank you as well to Brother Tony for the Christmas card and love offering for us and for Ptr. Fain; it helped when we personally needed it most. Furthermore, it is always exciting to work for the Lord; you will hear different life stories and battles testifying to God's saving grace. We have one family that we always visit and share the word of God with. His name is "tatay," which means father "Freddie." This couple made their profession of faith and started joining our church. They are the first family who joined the church in June 2022. His wife had a stroke and is recovering from her illness. But a couple months ago, after our thanksgiving dinner, God called his wife home. Our hearts were saddened, but it is of great joy that we were able to share with her the gospel before God called his wife home.

In my previous letter, I also shared about my plan to come back to the States this coming May for a furlough. Lord willing, I'm planning on raising money for the church vehicle. I have attached a picture of the said vehicle. It is a Toyota rectangular-shaped van, and it cost \$14,550. It has a 12-14 seating capacity. I can say that it is the most reasonable price that we can get for a bigger and brand-new vehicle rather than a regular van, and it will serve its purpose: to get more people to church, to use for bringing materials for teaching kids, tracks and Bibles, and hot meals for our feeding ministry for the fortunate kids in the farther areas and through highways. I am also praying to raise additional support for our family so we can get medical insurance because, aside from being fit spiritually, we also need to take care of our physical health while doing God's ministry work here in the Philippines.

Another thing that really breaks my heart over here is a poor medical system. Based on my experience, they are not going to attend to your medical needs if you don't have money or insurance to take care of your bill immediately. I would like to assure you that everything in the mission field is in order before I leave for furlough. I decided to come back by myself due to our finances, and **I'm currently looking at a ticket for myself back and forth for \$1,200.** Please pray that God will supply the need for my plane ticket as well. Once again, thank you for your prayers and financial support for our family and the furtherance of the gospel in the small areas of the Philippine Islands.

**Your co-laborers, Bro. Howard Miller and Family**



## Be Strong ~ Youth

As springtime begins to unfold, our youngsters are busy filling in the final few steps of our Old Testament timeline. Along the way, we've been introduced to many of the awful kings of Judah and Israel. One of the worst rulers had a power-hungry mother who wanted to reign so badly that she put to death all the threats to her throne... even her own grandchildren! To say the least, our students were stunned by this wicked grandmother who makes any Disney villain look like a teddy bear! One infant grandson, Joash, was protected from his granny, and hidden away in the temple by his aunt and uncle. Imagine the amusement on their young faces when our children learned that six years later, little Joash was crowned king of Judah... when he was only seven years old! He grew to be one of the few kings *"that did right in the sight of the Lord"*— cleaning and repairing the neglected temple, breaking down the altars of idolatry throughout the land, and reading the forgotten Word of God to the people. For a while, God's people were refreshed as they turned back to Him, trusting and worshipping Him once again. Sadly though, we're always disappointed to see them fall back into the same dismal habits of rejecting the Lord.

In fact, after our long journey with the Israelites, our students seem to sympathetically identify with them, and it hurts our hearts to repeatedly see their losses and failures. It was especially hard to recently find, in II Kings, the tragic end of the northern kingdom, Israel. We began the night around a table, shooting rubber bands at a pitcher full of water. The height and angle of the water surface made it difficult to hit the target. As sinful humans, we might say that we also "miss the mark" when it comes to God's holy righteousness. As Israel's final king, Hoshea, tried to keep a good relationship with the enemy by paying off the mighty Assyrians, we pondered how things might've changed if Hoshea had only asked God for help against their evil adversary. In time, the next enemy king besieged the land, and the Lord's special people were conquered and carried away in shame... defeated slaves in bondage. For centuries, they ignored the warnings God had given through His prophets and judges, and now, it's a sorrow to see the Lord turn His back on the ones He led for so long. Looking back over the timeline, our youngsters spotted the countless ways God had been faithful to Israel in the past — delivering them from the plagues in Egypt; parting the Red Sea as pharaoh's army trapped them; keeping, leading, and providing through the wilderness; as well as allowing them to conquer and inhabit the new promised land. But the Israelites forgot the wondrous ways God had blessed them, and they failed to trust Him. This sorrowful account serves to help our young people learn that today, sin still separates us from His holiness, bringing sadness, regret, and destroyed relationships. Paul even used this history in his day, to encourage his audience not to sin against God as their ancestors had done. While he recounts the Israelites' failures, Paul reminds us, *"...let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall."* (I Cor. 10:12) We must never get over-confident and think we can resist sin on our own. Until we

(Continued)



humbly see a little of ourselves in God's weak and wayward people, we may not recognize the selfishness, pride, and obstinance in our own hearts. All our youth leaders treasure the mission of guiding our young people to see their need for our loving and merciful Savior.

We're thankful, dear church family, for your faithful prayers...

~Bruce, Darla, and Marshall

**Teen Update ~** Our final lesson in our Biblical Worldview study was titled, "What is the Purpose for My Life?" Why are you here on planet Earth? Is there a real purpose for your existence? We started our lesson with these two questions, and here are the answers our teens gave, "To serve others." "To do what God has called us to do." "Share the goodness of God with others." Our hearts were bursting with joy!

Next, we looked to the Bible to answer these questions regarding our purpose in life. Revelation 4:11 tells us we are created for God's own delight and that we were brought into existence because it pleased Him to do so. In Isaiah 43:7, we saw that God brings every life into existence for a reason. We are here to bring Him glory. Finally, Psalm 16:11 tells us that only when we are fulfilling the purpose for which each of us is created will we have true satisfaction.

As we discussed God's divine plan for each of us, we realized that God didn't have to create us. He doesn't "need" anything or anyone. Our existence is because God desired each of us to be here. He loves us. He finds pleasure in us, His creations. Our purpose is to bring Him glory. Each of the talents, skills, abilities, etc. that we have are to serve as a way of showing how great and wonderful our God is! When we live a life focused on this purpose, it becomes clearer as to how our lives can be used for His glory. His Word reveals to each of us what brings Him glory, and guides us as He unfolds the way He desires to use us for His glory throughout the course of our lives.

What is the impact of our purpose within our worldview? Our view of the world should be that we realize the reason why we exist. We exist for God's purpose, not ours. Many live their lives for the "pursuit of happiness," and end up finding disappointment and emptiness. Enjoying life is wonderful, but joy will only come when we bring glory to our Creator, just as He intended us to.

Because of Calvary,  
John & Stephanie Moore

## Coming, Believing, and Rewarded

**“But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.” – Hebrews 11:6**

Coming to God is a prompted by the Holy one is exposed to the essential direction of God *is*. The fact of accepted. The belief that lieve that God is here! the church as “God’s ence is only in worship God in Church but would do well to understand that His presence is not restricted to church. David confirmed this truth. “Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence?” – Psalm 139:7



“faith experience” Spirit’s conviction as Scriptures. The first faith is in the belief that His existence is accepted. “God is” is to also believe. We tend to reference house” as if His presence Church! We certainly

When we come to Him, believing that He is and He is here, we are blessed by His conviction to live in light of His presence and our lives are enriched. Our testimony and commitment are authentic. A genuine faith that “God is” and that He is here, results in true spirituality and far more than simply a “little religion!” Charles Spurgeon said, “Of all the miserable things in the world, a little religion is about the worst of all.”

Those coming to Him and believing are rewarded. The greatest reward is the reward of Himself! He not only gave Himself for us but also to us for He is residing in the believer. “To whom God would make known what *is* the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory:” – Colossians 1:27

The saved are rewarded with the greatest reward. Ask a newborn Christian about the reward and they will tell you about the reward of saving grace. Ask a faithful servant of the Lord about the reward and they will tell you about the reward of sustaining grace. Ask a dying saint about the reward and they will tell you about the reward in their testimony of dying grace. God is pleased by those who come to Him by faith and He rewards them richly. The riches of His reward are not so much in wealth or health but rather, Himself!

Pastor Chuck Peters – 1/18/2023



## Could I Tell You About My Future Home?

*“To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you,” – I Peter 1:4*

I have an earthly home which I have lived in now for a number of years. I love my home for it is somewhat of a shelter of rest and relaxation at the end of the day. I can kick my shoes off, put on my “jammers,” and feel totally at ease. My home is where I sleep, eat, and, feel totally at home! My home, however, constantly needs repair and upkeep. One day I will leave my earthly home for a better home.

I have a much better home and more valuable home which I have inherited. I already have the key to this home though I have yet to go inside. My future home is already paid for and the One who purchased it for me has already proven the payment by the receipt of His resurrection. My reservation is proven by His resurrection!

I look outside, through the window of my earthly home, and see the landscape of winter. I view the scenery through fog which has settled in and the world appears dull and drab. I see no flowers blooming and the trees are barren of leaves. The darkened road in the front of my house is worn from the many years of traffic. There is a shiver in the air from the mid-winter cold and dampness.

My future, heavenly home, will never need repair for it is incorruptible. It is an inheritance which is undefiled or pure. It is an eternal estate not obtained through fraud and dishonesty. My new home will be eternal and perfectly matched to my heart’s desire. I will never have to entertain the thoughts of upsizing or downsizing for my home will be perfect in every way. Nothing in the atmosphere of Glory will fade with time for my home is eternal in the Heavens. The flowers in the land of my new home will never cease to bloom and the brightness and beauty of the land will be kept in its original brilliance of light. Millions of years will pass, yet the golden streets of the city will never lose their luster. The air will be clean and the warmth of the Saviour’s presence will assure a perfect heavenly temperature.

This future home is reserved for those that have been given two births from God. He is the Author of physical life and spiritual birth. “Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,” – I Peter 1:3  
*Can you also speak of this same future home? Are you also going to a city where the roses never fade?*

Pastor Chuck Peters – 1/31/2023

**Romans 10:17 ~ “So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.”**