Non-Profit Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Greensboro NC
Permit No. 6009

www.smithgrove.org

VOLUME 40
September 2023
ISSUE 474

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 . . .

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

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

The Messenger

September 2023

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 . . .*

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, Stateside (Sam Crater's nephew)
SGT. Eric Compton, Army, Ft. Stewart, GA (Doug Slate's grandson)
CW4 Jonathan Harless (Raleigh)
LTC Robert Harless (Ft. Bragg, NC) } (Hal & Martha Harless' sons)
E3 Noah Johnson, US Coast Guard Station Port Canaveral, Cape Canaveral, FL (Henry & Geraldine Johnson's grandson)
CCWO5 Michael Maine, US Army; Fort Rucker, AL (Nephew of Clarence Redmon)
SSGT Trevor Westmoreland, Army, Fort Benning, GA (Allen & Sandy Westmoreland's son)

1 Timothy 6:12
Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses.

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.*

T – "Taste*"O taste and see that the LORD is good: blessed is the man that trusteth in him." – Psalm 34:8*

Have you ever known anyone who would turn their nose up over a food item without tasting it? No one is really capable to make a recipe judgment without a taste test!

I think of the Lord and the salvation He gives. Jesus is the Living Bread come down from heaven and those who have trusted Him for salvation have tasted and eaten and enjoyed the goodness of the salvation He gives. "This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever." – John 6:58

We who have trusted Him for salvation, have tasted the goodness of His grace and we have continually tasted the goodness of His protection, love, presence, and comfort. The taste is in the trust and His goodness and blessings are full of the rich flavor of redemption and only the "taster" can really see that He is good!

Chuck Peters

BEAMS' Report for August 2023

of Pledges: 8 ; # of Contributions: 8 ;
Total Contributors: 16
Total Contributed: $ 685.00 =
86 **Bibles in August** (plus some postage)

*Many thanks to all those who gave monies to the BEAMS' ministry specifically for postage which added **$ 155.00** in August!*
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/**

Let us therefore come boldly unto
the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy,
and find grace to help in time of need.
Hebrews 4:16

"God tailors the garment of grace, to match the size of our need." .....*Pastor Chuck*

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."
(I 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 *September and October* 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.

Carol Hayden
8413 Adkins Rd
Colfax, NC 27235
336-993-8328
336-708-9435 ~ Sept. 01

Evelyn Mickey
8350 Tyner Loop Rd
Colfax, NC 27235
336-668-2332 ~ Sept. 01

Bobbie Hayworth
1847 Horneytown Rd.
High Point, NC 27265
336-869-3956 (Home)
336-942-0750 (Cell) ~ Sept. 27

Ruby Bowden
2007 Beeson Road
Oak Ridge, NC 27310
336-993-0220 ~ October 20

Iris Farrington
C/O Fair Haven Home
149 Fairhaven Dr, Rm a5b
Bostic, NC 28018
828-245-9095 ~ October 24

Norman Smith
111 Buena Vista Ave
High Point, NC 27265
336-847-2164 (Cell) ~ October 26

Kathy L. Crews
8103 Tam O'Shanter Dr
Greensboro, NC 27409
336-668-9721 ~ October 30

Jackie Chastain
1053 St. Michael's Ln
High Point, NC 27265
336-869-4697 (Home)
336-906-7281 (Cell) ~ October 31

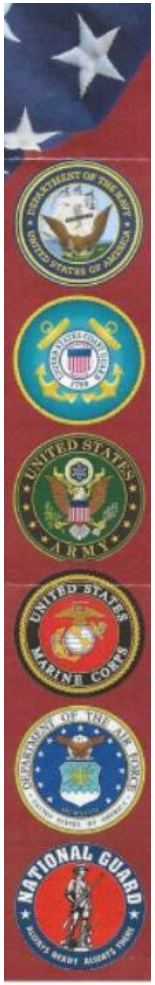
Are you or a family member turning 90 this year? Please let Pastor Chuck know if you would like to be recognized on your special birthday!

September Anniversaries

2 Bob and Shirley Ingold
3 Bill and Jeanette Dillon
12 Tony and Trudy Nuckles
19 Henry & Geraldine Johnson
23 Michael & Lisa Serafini
29 Carl & Judy Fowler

BEREAN ARMED FORCES MINISTRIES

BAFM, 2400 CHANDLERSVILLE RD, Zanesville, OH 43701



In our last newsletter, I mentioned that the owner of the Golden Corral in Jacksonville, North Carolina near Camp Lejeune, wants us to set up a literature table at all twelve of the Golden Corrals that he currently owns for this year's Veterans' Day event in November. WE NEED PASTORS THAT WILL PARTNER WITH OUR MISSION IN EACH CITY THAT IS LISTED BELOW. All these cities have a Golden Corral, and we have a golden opportunity to distribute Gospel literature and share with the local veterans that eat at each of those restaurants. The cities are the following: Richmond, Glen Allen, Colonial Heights, Roanoke, Lynchburg -- all in Virginia; and Charlotte, North Carolina. God might also give us a new restaurant in Syracuse, New York, fifty miles south of Ft. Drum Army Base. Although this Golden Corral is owned by a Hindu corporation, please pray that God would open this new door for us. If you know of a pastor or veteran in one of these cities that might be interested in helping to reach out to the veterans in that community, please call me (Patrick) ASAP with the contact information. I will reach out from here. Thank you!

I want to thank all those who have been praying for the GOOD NEWS John and Romans distribution at our military base cities. On July 5th we picked up 10,000 copies of GOOD NEWS that had been printed in 45 minutes and were then wrapped and loaded into my trailer in another 30 minutes. In just an hour and a half, 10,000 papers were printed, loaded, and headed to Ft. Drum. They were unloaded at the dock of the Watertown Daily Times by Pastor and Mrs. Joe Mann and their son Jonathon of Fellowship Baptist Church, Perish, New York, on July 10th. On Saturday, July 15, 8,438 subscribers of the daily news will receive a copy of the GOOD NEWS John and Romans. All local newspaper companies in military cities are glad to insert a copy of GOOD NEWS into the local paper for a fee. This is not free advertising, so we need funds in order to be able to spread the Gospel in this way. Another ministry opportunity is waiting for us at the American Legion Convention, August 25-31 in Charlotte, North Carolina. Please pray we will have laborers to help hand out the Gospel packets to veterans. Maybe you could even come and help us. In Matthew 9:36-38 Jesus makes it very clear and simple: He is the Lord of His harvest. His word is the Seed (Luke 8:11), and He has put into our trust the planting of the Gospel message. (I Thessalonians 2:4). NO SEED PLANTING; NO HARVEST OF SOULS.

If you're reading this and haven't been helping our soldiers to be encouraged with our form of evangelism, please pray and ask the Lord what you could be doing to help finance some of these missions or to provide laborers. THE NEED IS GREAT!

In Christ, *Brother Patrick*, founder of BAFM ~ Psalm 35:27

Pastor Chuck ~ 25 Years of Service …

Over the last twenty-five years, Pastor Chuck has written devotionals, poems, and published books which served to bless, humble, challenge, and/or encourage those who read them. The following is an excerpt from one of those writings, "***Precious Memories ~ A book of Consolation.***" It seems most fitting at this moment in time . . . *On August 13, 2023, our Pastor tearfully announced his retirement as Senior Pastor in the spring of 2024. It was a shock to all of us - we love him so - but after more than 50 years of preaching, 25 of those years at Smith Grove, he and Sister Carol are due some time to relax and enjoy their retirement. He assured us he isn't going anywhere; he and Carol are our family, and always will be! Much love to our beloved Pastor and Carol . . .*

The Jews in captivity remembered life in Zion before deportation and sorrowed over the recollection of those bygone days. They grieve as they think of their "good old days!" Those years in Zion were years when they witnessed God's favor and blessing. Times have changed and life has changed. They are away from home and left with only their memory of how things used to be. Their memory is both precious and painful!

I reflect today upon the past and my mind is flooded with memories. My memories are precious yet also painful. I am comforted by the words of Jesus where He states in Matthew, "I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living." – Matthew 22:32. My comfort is derived from the fact that He is the God of the living and that means my precious deceased Christian friends are alive and well, even as I write!

I reflect upon the memories of fellow saints who experienced in death the truth of a presence with the Lord. I still grieve because of their absence here but rejoice in knowing that they are at home and safe with the Lord. I am thinking of a great host of friends who, once upon a time, came to grips with their sin condition and placed their trust in Christ's finished work on Calvary. They, from the heart, took God at His Word in accordance to the standards as given under inspiration by Paul the Apostle. "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." – Romans 10:9

Today I prepare for another funeral and do so with emotions coupled with joy and grief. Years upon this earth and in the service of the precious Lord have accumulated yet they seem so brief.

I reflect upon my life and am filled with joy for the many blessings of life. I am blessed with a wonderful wife who has been not only a great helpmeet but also a vital asset to my ministry for all these years. I am blessed with a wonderful son who makes me so proud because of his love for the Lord and ministry. *My wife recently reminded me of our blessings. She mentioned to me that we have had a good life!* ***Yes we have, and our Lord gets the credit!***

Piedmont Camp Meeting

~ September 6th-8th, 7 PM Nightly ~

Thursday & Friday Morning, Services at 10 AM
(with Dr. Don Anderson & other local preachers)
~ 8631 Bull Rd., Colfax, NC 27235 ~

Wed. Night	**Thurs. Night**	**Fri. Night**
Dr. Steve Dagenhart	***Dr. Joe Arthur***	***Dr. Kenny Baldwin***

Special Music throughout the meeting by :

Camp Meeting Choir — The Morrison Sisters
The Joyful Sounds — The Joyaires — The Lawson Family

Labor Day ~ Sept. 4

IT COULDN'T BE DONE by Edgar Guest

Somebody said it couldn't be done,
But he with a chuckle replied
That "maybe it couldn't," but he would be one
Who wouldn't say so till he'd tried.
So he buckled right in with the trace of a grin
On his face. If he worried he hid it.
He started to sing and he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

Somebody scoffed: "Oh, you'll never do that;
At least no one has ever done it";
But he took off his coat and he took off his hat,
And the first thing we knew he'd begun it.
With a lift of his chin and a bit of a grin,
Without any doubting or quiddit,
He started to sing and he tackled the thing
That couldn't be done, and he did it.

There are thousands to tell you it cannot be done,
There are thousands to prophesy failure;
There are thousands to point out to you, one by one,
The dangers that wait to assail you.
But just buckle in with a bit of a grin,
Just take off your coat and go to it;
Just start to sing as you tackle the thing
That "cannot be done," and you'll do it.

Be Strong ~ Youth

In these busy days, all our young people are excitedly adjusting to a new school year. Before heading back, we enjoyed a special "Back to School Celebration" on August 16. Cheryl and Steve beautifully decorated the fellowship hall with a "fiesta" flair, while Stephanie ordered and picked up a delicious Mexican meal from Salsarita's! Our youngsters dined on chicken and beef tacos with all the toppings… black beans, chips, salsa, queso, and pico de gallo. After our feast, we were treated with Cheryl's homemade blueberry pies, watermelon slices, and Catherine's birthday cake. Brother Gary Deese, a local Gideon, joined us, too. He brought along three of his fellow Gideons, and our youngsters were eager to listen to their testimonies. We heard powerful stories about people around the world, whose life stories were turned around by God's Word. The young people were amazed to hear that Bibles are illegal in other parts of the world, making them treasures in some countries. Wide eyed, our students learned that some faraway congregations share *one copy* of God's Word, passing it along from one family to another. In one African village, little testaments were given to the elementary children, only to have them snatched away by the high school students, who viciously ripped out all the precious pages, leaving the ground covered with white papers. Another account told of a struggling couple who found an unusual use for a Gideon Bible they stole from a motel room… noticing the fine, thin pages were well suited for rolling, they *smoked* its pages one at a time, all the way through Leviticus. At that point, they began reading the remaining scriptures, and both husband and wife asked Jesus to be their Lord and Savior. We heard stories about Bibles, in many languages, distributed in prisons and colleges, affirming again that God's Word changes lives. We were especially blessed with the reminder that we should cherish our Bibles and not take them for granted. Our new Gideon friends then passed out New Testaments to all our youngsters, and we encouraged our youth to tuck them into their book bags and carry God's Word to school with them this year. Fittingly, Bruce showed us a well-worn red Testament, dated 1976, given to him as a little boy when Gideons visited his elementary school. Maybe someday, one of our children will recall this night, when a faithful Gideon touched their own hearts with the gift of a copy of God's Word.

Additionally, every young person chose a pencil box stuffed with school supplies and goodies... pencils, pens, erasers, tablets, candies, and snacks. A *John 3:16* zipper pull will go on their book bags, and a packet of scripture cards for "Navigating the Road of Life" should bring encouragement on difficult school days, when they need an extra lift. But the most uplifting moment of all came as our leaders and Gideons stood together, surrounding our seated young people, praying for the Lord's protection, guidance, and wisdom over them as they begin another school year. May He provide the strength to overcome hard things, the grace to grow in their faith, and the peace to face the discouragements ahead. We are grateful already for the ways He will use them to shine His light for their teachers, their friends, and their families.

With Our Love and Prayers, *Bruce, Darla, and Marshall*

TIME MANAGEMENT

Teen Update ~ Managing our time is something we can all benefit from. As our teens headed back to school, we spoke to them about the importance of time management and how learning these skill now will make it easier on them in the future. Here are a few statistics that shows how some Americans are spending their time. These statistics are from 2012 poles taken from CNBC and Mashable.com.

- The average American spends 6.9 hours per month on social media. Being from 2012, I'm sure this time is much more now.
- The average American spends 59.4 hours per month watching TV.
- The amount of time Americans spent on social media in July of 2012 adds up to 230,060 years.

These statistics show that many waste their time on things that probably have no significant importance.

We turned to the Bible to see what it teaches us about time management. Psalm 90:12 says, "So teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom."

While we don't know the exact number of days we have to live, we know that we don't have forever to live here on this earth. Knowing this, how do you feel about the way that you spend your days? Are you a planner, procrastinator, or one who just lets whatever happens happen? Most importantly, where does God fit into any of it? We are to treasure each moment and do good in that moment. Use your time wisely for the Lord.

Ephesians 5:15-17 says, "See then that ye walk circumspectly, not as fools, but as wise, redeeming the time, because the days are evil. Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."

We are to live our lives as wise. So, how does this relate to time management? How we spend our hours adds up to how we spend our days. How we spend our days adds up to how we spend our lives. If we're wasting our days avoiding what we need to be doing, that is essentially how we're spending our life, and that is not wise.

To "understand what the will of the Lord is", we need to spend time with Him by praying and reading our Bibles. The more time we spend with Him, the easier it will be to make the most of every opportunity.

James 4:14 says, "Whereas ye know not what shall be on the morrow. For what is your life? It is even a vapor, that appeareth for a little time, and then vanisheth away."

Our life is just a little blimp in the grand scheme of time. We need to make the absolute most of our time. Whether or not we decide to take charge of our time, it's going to pass us by anyway. If you want to make the most of it, and live the way the Bible says, managing our time is a must. Here are three ways to get the most out of our time. Make God your number one Priority, prioritize the things in your life, and hold yourselves accountable.

Pray and ask God to help you with managing your time. He loves you more than anything and wants to see you succeed with the life He has blessed you with.

Because of Calvary,
Stephanie and John Moore

What in the World is Going On?

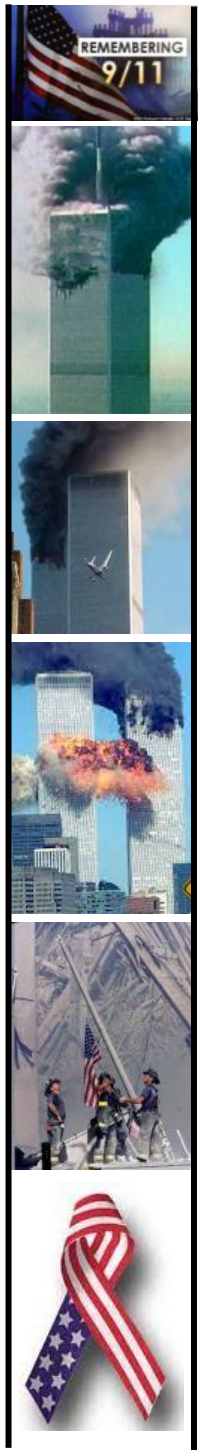
The Psalmist was confused when his eyes were focused upon the evils in this world. Everything appeared to be out of control. It seemed to him that the wicked had the upper end and the righteous were losers in every count. When he drew nigh to God, he then understood. His eyes had shifted off his surroundings and upon God! Frustration ends when faith begins! "Until I went into the sanctuary of God; then understood I their end." – Psalm 73:17

I read a story where a father was reading the paper and came across a map of the world. He cut the map into several pieces and told his son to put the world back together. The boy worked on it a short while and called his dad over to tell him that he had finished the project. His father asked him how he had completed it so quickly? The son said that he turned the pieces over and found that they formed the picture of a man. He put the picture of the man together and the world came together right.

I look at this evil, out of control world, and am distressed and confused. I see evil triumphant and justice never being served against the workers of iniquity. The wicked seem to be prospering and the righteous are suffering. I scratch my head and wonder what is the use in serving God? I see the severed pieces of a sin sickened world. I then turn the pieces over. My confused mind is made clear and my saddened heart is made joyful by what I then see. I now see the pieces coming together for I see, in my opened Bible before me, a Sovereign God in full control of this world. His Word assures me that He will straighten this mess out in His own time!

The puzzle of this severed world is reassembled in the mind of those whose hearts have been reassembled into a new heart by the redeeming grace of God. Faith understands that there is a blessed backside to the puzzle of life. Seeing Christ is the cure for confusion and the stimulus for endurance. "By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible." – Hebrews 11:27

Chuck Peters – 8/10/2023



Our Country was attacked by four coordinated Islamist suicide terrorists on a Tuesday, September 11, 2001, and that date has since been referenced as 9/11. We think of that date with sadness and have felt a sense of insecurity to this day. That date reminds us of the evil doings of our enemy.

Today, I am reminded of another 9/11 which is not negative but all positive. ***"Sing praises to the LORD, which dwelleth in Zion: declare among the people his doings."*** – Psalm 9:11 This **9/11**, speaks of God's doings which we are to declare because of Whom they concern and what they entail. His "doings" are praiseworthy, precious, and powerful.

- That 9/11 speaks of insecurity and fear.
- This 9/11 speaks of security and peace.
- That 9/11 constitutes solemn history
- This 9/11 constitutes the blessings of God . . .

. . . here and for eternity because His doings are wonderful for time and eternity. *"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

The enemies came to destroy us but He came to give life. *"The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly."* – John 10:11

Chuck Peters – 8/16/2023