

THE MESSENGER

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

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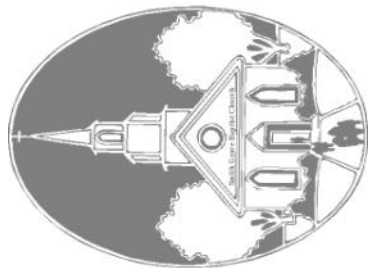
PROVERBS 25:13

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

The Messenger



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2024



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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 . . .*



Luke 12:27 - Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Sat., April 6 , 6 pm - W-S Rescue Mission

Sun., April 7, 5 pm – First VBS Meeting in the Fellowship Bldg.

Sat., April 13, 5:00 pm, Retirement Dinner for Pastor Chuck & Carol Peters in the Fellowship Bldg.

Sun., April 14, 10 am (No Sunday School) – Join us as we honor our Pastor - No evening service

Sun., April 21 – BEAMS Sunday

**Saturday, April 27, 2024; ~ Teen Rummage Sale Fundraiser ~
8 AM – 2 PM ~ All Items 50% off After 12 PM**

Every Monday, 3 pm, Robinwood Retirement Ctr.

LOOKING AHEAD ~ VBS: “The Great Jungle Journey”

Monday-Friday, June 10-14, 7-9 pm

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

IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

PVT Adam Brittain, Army, Stateside (Sam Crater's nephew)

CW4 Jonathan Harless (Ft. Bragg) } (Hal & Martha

COL Robert Harless (Ft. Bragg, NC) } Harless' sons)

E5 Noah Johnson, US Coast Guard, Portsmouth, VA
(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)

1stSgt Gregory Reynolds, Marines, Camp Pendleton, CA.
(Jan Reynolds' son.)

SSgt. Josh Robertson, Marines, Naples, Italy (From Clyde Gray)

The Country of Israel - families of those killed, and the hostages taken. *May God's chosen people prevail.*



BEAMS' Report for March 2024

of Pledges: 9; # of Contributions: 8;
Total Contributors: 17
Total Contributed: \$ 944.00 =
118 Bibles in March (plus some postage)

Many thanks to all those who gave monies to the BEAMS' ministry specifically for postage which added \$ 430.00 in March!

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/>

- You Are Invited -

*To a Retirement Dinner
for
Pastor Chuck & Carol Peters
Saturday, April 13, 5 p.m.*

*In the
Smith Grove Fellowship Building
2707 Sandy Ridge Rd.
Colfax, NC 27235*



To our beloved Pastor Chuck and Sister Carol, we send our love as a congregation with continued prayers for your lives to be full and rewarding. You have served so faithfully, and we are forever grateful for your consistent love and encouragement to each one of your flock. May God bless you as you roll into retirement!



*May the road rise to meet you.
May the wind be always at your back.*

At VBS 2024, your kids will sail along on a fun jungle cruise,



stopping at seven ports of call: the 7 C's of History: Creation, Corruption, Catastrophe, Confusion, Christ, Cross, and Consummation. Kids will discover how these events shape our world, and they will learn to reconnect the Bible to their everyday life. *Prepare to swing into fun as we head out on The Great Jungle Journey!*

Monday-Friday, June 10-14 - 7-9 pm

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. Join us as we highlight our special "Honour Roll Gang Members" who are having birthdays in May (none in April). Please take a moment to send a card, make a telephone call, or do something extra special for our special saints.

Alta Key

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

Eloise McCollum

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

Dovie Dull

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

Esther Campbell

8309 Lakedale Circle Dr
Colfax, NC 27235
336-317-2093 ~ May 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!

April Anniversaries

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



Origins of April Fools' Day: Some historians speculate that April Fools' Day dates back to 1582, when France switched from the Julian calendar to the Gregorian calendar. In the Julian Calendar, the new year began with the spring equinox around April 1. People who were slow to get the news or failed to recognize that the start of the new year had moved to January 1 and continued to celebrate it during the last week of March through April 1 became the butt of jokes and hoaxes and were called "April fools." Even in 1760 there was speculation as to the origins of the holiday, with a line in Poor Robin's Almanac reading: *"The First of April some do say. Is set apart for all Fool's Day. But why the people call it so. Nor I nor they themselves do know."*

Lines Written in Early Spring

BY WILLIAM WORDSWORTH

I heard a thousand blended notes,
While in a grove I sat reclined,
In that sweet mood when pleasant
thoughts, Bring sad thoughts to the
mind.

The birds around me hopped and
played, Their thoughts I cannot meas-
ure:— But the least motion which they
made, It seemed a thrill of pleasure.

To her fair works did Nature link
The human soul that through me ran;
And much it grieved my heart to think,
What man has made of man.

The budding twigs spread out their
fan,
To catch the breezy air;
And I must think, do all I can,
That there was pleasure there.

Through primrose tufts, in that green
bower, The periwinkle trailed its
wreaths; And 'tis my faith that every
flower, Enjoys the air it breathes.

If this belief from heaven be sent,
If such be Nature's holy plan,
Have I not reason to lament
What man has made of man?

He Gets a Pass!



"It tastes good, the birds don't
mind, and how am I supposed
to know that this feeder isn't
for me?" Just as surely as this
pretty little creature finds food,
God really looks out for the
highest order in His creation.
"Consider the ravens: for they
neither sow nor reap; which
neither have storehouse nor

barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than
the fowls?"- Luke 12:24. Through the blood of Christ, saved sin-
ners are made able to feed from God "feeder" of grace and food
from on high! God sees us in Christ, "special" and, like this little
squirrel, we too get a pass! – Chuck Peters – 2/19/2024

Truths About Retirement:

- "You are never too old to set another goal or to dream a new dream."
- "Retirement: it's nice to get out of the rat race, but you have to learn to get along with less cheese."
- "Retirement is not the end of the road. It is the beginning of the open highway."
- "You've heard of the three stages of man: youth, middle age, and you're looking wonderful."



Be Strong ~ Youth

Our youngsters have been looking forward to this final stretch of our Bible timeline, in which we explore the beginning of the early church. They were fascinated with the day of Pentecost, which took place ten days after Jesus ascended to heaven. The children colored flames and cut them out, then they looked surprised when they were handed a piece of tape and instructed to slap them on their foreheads! In this funny setting, with paper flames stuck to our heads, we watched the Book of Acts unfold, amazed at the Holy Spirit's arrival as the Lord's church "catches fire" with a mighty rush of wind. Back then, the presence of God was *visible* in the flames above each believer's head, but He was also *heard*... in the miraculous way His truth was understood throughout Jerusalem that day, despite the language barriers. Our children marveled that Peter and John, filled with the Holy Spirit, were able to preach to thousands, each one hearing the gospel message in their own language! What a wonder, remembering that, as Christians, we too have His power... *"But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me... unto the uttermost part of the earth."* (Acts 1:8)

Another night, we considered a variety of things that strike fear within our hearts. While we held up pictures of scary things, the children displayed their own fear-meters, holding up one finger for "no fear" and ranging all the way up to ten fingers for "terrified". Posted pictures included the ocean, vicious dogs, rollercoasters, heights, and bees – and each of us pondered the fears that will stop us in our tracks. We discussed what it might mean to have a "fear of God", and how He used an incident in Acts to remind His early church that His power should always be respected. Ananias and Sapphira had sold their property and donated a large part of the money to the church. Because they claimed that they had donated *all* of the money, they died instantly. It's important to understand that God doesn't require us to sell all we have and give it to his work. He knew this couple's hearts, and He saw the pride behind their lie... they wanted the others to be impressed with their great sacrifice, and they desired to be recognized for it. They strived for pleasing others instead of the Lord. In these early days when the church was brand new, God wanted His believers to be honest and humble before Him, having a desire to please only Him with their lives and honoring Him alone. While the news of their deaths spread, a healthy fear and regard for God's power grew in this first generation of church folks. Today, our respect for Him grows as we spend time in His Word, learning about Him and letting His truth lead our actions. When we live honestly before Him, He will bless us with His joy and peace.

We have also seen how the coming of the Holy Spirit gave boldness to the early believers to carry out miracles in the name of Jesus. When Peter and John encountered a lame man begging for money at the temple, they told him they had no silver or gold, but *"such as I have give I thee: in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk."* The man was healed, and went his way,



Enjoy Spring!

walking and leaping and praising God. Meanwhile, Peter boldly preached to the onlookers that it was through the power of Jesus, God's Son... the One they had crucified... that this lame man had been touched. Peter and John were thrown in prison and admonished to stop their preaching and healing, but they knew they could not help but *"speak the things which we have seen and heard."* With the Holy Spirit living within them, the men and women of Acts could face the task ahead as they spread the message of the gospel, knowing that Jesus was guiding the way. Thank you, church family, for praying that *our own* young Christians will also find the boldness they need to live for Christ... standing for His truth, and shining His light in everything they do.

Praying Alongside You All ~ **Bruce, Darla, and Marshall**

Teens Update ~

Everyone could benefit from a little more self-control and diligence in their lives. Idleness breeds boredom. As our study of Proverbs progresses, we see how God counsels us to live disciplined and diligent lives. Although labor has existed since the beginning of time, the society in which we currently live attempts to persuade us that when we are free from labor, we have achieved true success.

"And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the Garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it," according to Genesis 2:15. Here we see that God had already worked out his plan before Adam and Eve rebelled. What a job it must have been to care for and direct God's creation! Though the labor here would not have been as frustrating as in today's modern gardens, it would still have required labor and sweat. Although challenging, work is essential for us.

God values hard work. The curse that followed Adam and Eve's fall is not work per se. Rather, the curse is that the land will make it difficult for man to put food on the table and that work will be hard. Work is not a curse in and of itself. Proverbs 24:30–34 describes a lazy life, according to Solomon. God has always valued skillful and good labor. Moses told the people in Exodus 36:1, "Then wrought Bezaleel and Aholiab, and every wise hearted man, in whom the LORD put wisdom and understanding to know how to work all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, according to all that the LORD had commanded." When Jesus was here on earth, he wasn't a loafer, he grew up learning his father's trade in carpentry and wood work.

Godly qualities include self-control and hard work. Living with a healthy respect and fear of God is our life's work. This mission should motivate us to be thorough and disciplined in everything we do!

Because of Calvary,

Stephanie and John Moore

****VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**** We would love to have you volunteer at our rummage sale this year. If you are interested in helping, please let John or Stephanie know.



Smith Grove Baptist Church
Teen Rummage Sale Fundraiser
Saturday, April 27, 2024
8 AM - 2 PM
All Items 50% off After 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?

All sales from the donated items will go towards the teens 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 – Smoke and stain-free, please; Handbags; Books; Toys and Games; Bikes; Tools; Home Décor and artwork; Small household appliances and electronics – must be in working condition; Kitchen items – plates, bowls, drinking glasses, etc.; Furniture – you must be able to bring it yourself Friday, April 26, from 6 pm to 8 pm; Sports equipment and camping gear; Collectibles; CDs and DVDs

Items Not Accepted:

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 in the vestibule starting Sunday, March 3. Items can also be dropped off at the fellowship hall on Friday, April 26, from 6 pm to 8 pm.

If you have questions or would like to volunteer, please see any teen or Stephanie. Thank you for your continued support!

A local Pastor joined a Community Service Group, and the members thought they would have a little fun with him. Under his name badge they printed, "Hog Caller" as his occupation. Everyone made a big fanfare as the badge was presented.

The Pastor responded by saying, "I usually am called the "Shepherd of the sheep"... but I guess you know your people better than I do."

BEN
Baptists Equipping
Nationals

NTCGS
National Theological College & Graduate School

I am excited to report that we have reached several of our financial goals as we close 2023 and enter 2024. God has brought men and women, churches, and foundations to fund His work of teaching His faithful servants to “rightly divide” and proclaim His good news! You have heard the need, and you have given to meet that need.

In 2023, one of our goals was to develop a strategy to tell “our story” - the amazing account of how God has established BEN and National Theological College and Graduate School. God has opened an effectual door to send the gospel into restricted access countries of the Middle East and theologically needy areas of East Africa. While God has called men and women to salvation, dedication, and ministry in these areas, they have limited, to no access to theological training or resources. Like Apollos of Acts, they have a zeal without knowledge. They lack the training to effectually preach and teach the pure and powerful gospel. The need for theological training is great.

God is using His people to make this training possible. As one of our former presidents at BEN has said, “The water of life is free, but the plumbing is very expensive.” You are providing the “plumbing” needed to shower the water of life in these driest areas of our world.

In the last newsletter, we mentioned the need for Student Scholarships (SAS), and your generosity has supplied the need. We also mentioned Translation and Printing (TAP) projects: **Book to Translate for TAP Project: The World and the Word: An Introduction to the Old Testament.**

Needed \$15,500; Received \$15,500; Remaining \$ - 0 -

Arabic Theological Dictionary. Needed \$2,750; Rec'd \$1,350; Remaining \$1,400

Proverbs: A Mentor Commentary. Needed \$11,600; Rec'd \$2,000. Remaining \$9,600.

Thank you for sharing your resources with BEN and NTCGS. Without your generous gifts, there would be many who would be sounding an “uncertain trumpet” without the training and resources they need to interpret and herald God's Word.

Note: Because of the unrest in Lebanon and the surrounding countries, the courses for the Lebanese and Syrian students were taught remotely in the fall and will also be online this spring. They include Biblical Counseling and Introduction to the Old Testament. Please pray for our professors to teach God's Word clearly and effectively. Pray for our students to learn and live what they study.

Gratefully in Christ, Frankie Matthews, BEN President

Thank You, Smith Grove Baptist Church!
(Pastoral Retirement Sentiments)

The month of April, 2024, constitutes the Month when I retire as senior Pastor of Smith Grove Baptist Church. I do so with many



emotions while feeling that God's will is being done. It is deeply gratifying to end this phase of my ministry journey on a high note for I do so with a peace of mind in believing that it is God's will.

My mind goes back to a former time and setting in my life which constituted the groundwork for the 25+ Pastoral years of ministry in this church. I was a teacher at Piedmont Bible College in Winston-Salem N.C. A young student by the name of Bruce

Freeman was in one of my classes. He recommended me as a potential Interim Pastor of this church and the rest is history. That same former student will now become the senior Pastor of Smith Grove Baptist Church! I am happy to know that this beloved Church will have a Godly and humble servant of the Lord as its Pastor. I retire with the reassurance that this ministry will continue for the glory of God and have a loving and caring Under Shepherd. Praise the Lord!

Thank you, "Smith Grove Family," for our time together. We have had a wonderful journey despite the few "bumps in the road" from time to time. We all, like Paul and the crew, still made it to the shore! Please know that you have become more than a congregation, you have become family. Carol and I will remain members of this church and I will be honored to serve as "Pastor Emeritus." Carol and I will do all we can to complement the ministry of our new "Pastor's Family." Brother Bruce and sister Darla will have our support and prayers. I would admonish each of you to Love them and respect them as you have us!

I am not retiring from preaching, and plan, by the grace and leadership of the Lord, to be open to preaching opportunities, pulpit supply, interim work, and missions/teaching assignments. Carol and I would like to travel some and, perhaps, catch up on some visiting time with family and friends. I also desire to do some writing and put together a new book.

Paul, when ending his ministry at Ephesus, stated: "And now, brethren, I commend you to God, and to the word of his grace, which is able to build you up, and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified." – Acts 20:32 I love each of you and, again, thank you for the honor of being called your Pastor.

It is noteworthy that all the Pastors of this church have had long tenures. It seems that there is somewhat of an old fashioned traditional and rare "DNA" in Smith Grove Baptist Church which accommodates longer than usual Pastoral tenures. This Church loves the Word of God, respects, and honors Pastoral leadership to include a rare loyalty. It will forever be etched upon my memory the unusual decision of Smith Grove Baptist Church to insist that I be retained as Pastor, even though I was deployed in the Military for two years. I returned home from Iraq and stateside duty at Fort Riley Kansas to find my church waiting for my return. Love of Country and loyalty to Pastoral leadership constituted this Church decision.

Thank you for who you are and for all your acts of kindness to Carol and myself. Thank you for being far more than just a church family. You are our personal friends! Thank you for your display of love in the upcoming dinner in our honor. Thank you for the retirement stipend and willingness to keep our family as members as well as the honor of being your Pastor Emeritus. *"We give thanks to God always for you all, making mention of you in our prayers; Remembering without ceasing your work of faith, and labour of love, and patience of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ, in the sight of God and our Father;"* – I Thessalonians 1:2-3

Thank You, Church Family

Pastor Chuck Peters – 3/13/2024