

THE MESSENGER

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

VOLUME 41
July 2024
ISSUE 484

PROVERBS 25:13

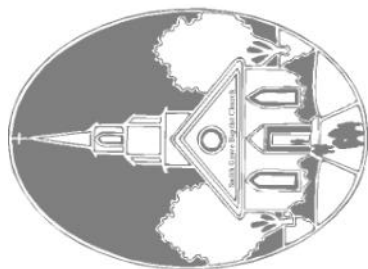
As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him, for he refresheth the soul of his masters . . .

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

Rev. Bruce Freeman, Pastor
Home (336) 996-1501
Cell (336) 816-2473



www.smithgrove.org

The Messenger



July
2024



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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 . . .*



Reminder: Sun., June 30 – 4th of July
Service with hot dogs & hamburgers after the service. NO EVENING SERVICE



Thur., July 4 ~ Independence Day ~ Celebrate our freedoms!
Sat., July 6 , 6 pm - W-S Rescue Mission
Sun., July 21 ~ BEAMS Sunday
Every Monday, 3 pm, Robinwood Retirement Ctr.

Sunday Sundae ~ Dates are as follows:

July 14, August 4, August 11, and August 18

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 Joy Overcast

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.



America, Be Proud

Happy birthday America, Happy 4th of July.
Show the red, white and blue, high against the sky.

Over 200 years ago it was put forth to right a wrong.
A new concept, a democracy, powerful and strong.

According to this doctrine, we have done what we had to do.
History was recorded, to prove it all to be true.

To this day, we continue to fight for the right to be free.
As the founding fathers created and established it to be.

We all have our beliefs, to agree or disagree.
I respect yours, please do the same for me.

So let us raise our voices over that of the crowd.
We are the United States of America!
And of that, we are proud!

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BEAMS' Report for June 2024

of Pledges: 8; # of Contributions: 5;

Total Contributors: 13

Total Contributed: \$ 609.00 =

76 Bibles in June (plus some postage)

*Many thanks to all those who gave monies to the BEAMS' ministry
specifically for postage which added \$ 180.00 in June!*

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/>



The water lily is the July
birth flower, symbolizing
purity, joy, and innocence.
The white Larkspur also
symbolizes love and happiness.
Rubies are the traditional birthstone
for those born in July, signifying pro-
tection and abundance.



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 July and August. Please take a moment to send a card, make a telephone call, or do something extra special for our special saints.

Betty Byrd

Trinity Glen Senior Care
 849 Waterworks Road
 Winston-Salem, NC 27101
 336-595-2166 ~ July 01

Patsy Pendry

8054 Clinard Farms Rd
 High Point, NC 27265
 336-617-0590 ~ August 19

Becky Redmon

8421 Endicott Road
 Colfax, NC 27235
 336-310-4657 (Home)
 336-482-1926 (Cell) ~ July 09

Doris Nuckles

8324 Tyner Loop Road
 Colfax, NC 27235
 336-668-2332 ~ August 28



*Are you or a family member turning 90 this year?
 Please let Pastor Bruce Freeman know if you would like to be
 recognized on your special birthday! (336-816-2473)*

July Anniversaries

- 2 Gale and Charlene Tester
- 7 Gary and Helen Hendrix
- 11 Chuck and Carol Peters
- 16 Steve and Stephanie Dillon
- 23 Wade and Nora Smith
- 25 Pam and Glen Blackburn
- 27 Bruce and Darla Freeman
- 30 Andy and Marsha Evans



"I was made and meant to look for you and wait for you and become yours forever." – Robert Browning
"A wedding anniversary is the celebration of love, trust, partnership, tolerance, and tenacity. The order varies for any given year." – Paul Sweeney, Scottish Author



Teens Update ~ Our teens and young adults here at Smith Grove Baptist Church are awesome! Their love for Jesus is shown in everything they do. Every month we'll spotlight one of our amazing teens or young adults so you can get to know them better. Please keep each of them in your prayers as they continue to navigate this wicked world.

Because of Calvary, Stephanie and John Moore

Smith Grove Baptist Church ~ July Spotlight



Name: Mackenzie

Age: 15

Birthday: December 4

School: Triad Baptist Christian Academy

Hobbies: Softball and fishing



Favorite Bible Verse: Psalm 28:7 "The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusted in him, and I am helped; therefore my heart greatly rejoiceth; and with my song will I praise him."

Why I love SGBC: I have a bond with the people at the church. No matter where I go, I always know I have a place to come back to. Our teens really have an amazing group, and it's a refreshing feeling when I am around them.



Michael Blackwell
 Uwharrie Charter Academy
 High School
Isaac Vaughn
 Triad Christian Academy
 (Grandsons of Calvin &
 Joy Vaughn)

Grace Marie Crater
 NC School of Science & Math
 (Sam & Sherrill Crater's granddaughter)

Elizabeth P Ferguson Eury
 Graduated GTCC
Jacob Ferguson
 Southwest Guilford High School

Catherine Sanchez-Hernandez
 Graduated UNC-G



Be Strong ~ Youth

Our "Great Jungle Journey" proved to be the perfect way to kick off our summer! What an amazing time we had, traveling down the River of Knowledge in our jungle cruise! From Genesis to Revelation, we spanned all of God's Word, discovering the 7 Cs of **HIS**tory and giving Him the praise for allowing His remarkable rescue plan to unfold in His perfect timing.

Vacation Bible School was an especially sweet time this year, with many helpers involved, many new friends met, many lessons learned, and many hearts touched. We could never thank you enough, church family, for your prayers as we prepared for such a large undertaking in this outreach. We rejoice that seven young hearts, in the Anacondas Class, prayed to accept Jesus into their hearts. An offering of almost \$800 will soon be sent to the Kennedy Family, for their ministry in Peru. 60% of that beautiful country is covered by the rainforest, so we thought New Life Children's Home would be a suitable recipient as we cruised down the Amazon, learning about the wildlife of the jungle and the *new life* Jesus offers through His mercy and grace.

How grateful we are, for each of you who had a part in bringing such an incredible adventure to life within our church walls. Truly, the Lord has blessed us with a core group of supportive people who have a real heart for the VBS ministry, and it could not be done without you! We deeply appreciate the faithful "River Guides" who led each age group ~ **Catherine and Mackenzie** (*Monkeys*, 3-4 years) / **Stephanie and Addison** (*Toucans*, 5-6 years) / **Ann and Ashley** (*Anacondas*, 7-8 years) / **Cheryl, Vianey, and Steve** (*Crocodiles*, 9-10 years) / **Andrea, Sharon, and Darla** (*Capybaras*, 11-12 years) / **Bruce and Marshall** (*Sloths*, Teens) / **Pastor Chuck** (*Hippos*, Adults).

It was a blessing to gather for our cruise, with a team of friends and family who willingly sacrificed their time and talents. We're thankful for these many partners in ministry ~ **Melanie** (Music Director, who carefully chose a perfect blend of tunes to engage our students and keep the Bible truths fresh on their minds for months to come) / **Scott** (who performed "Skipper Scottie", took class photos, and counted nightly offerings) / **Nathan** (Sound) / **John** (for livestreaming our kick-off, helping where needed, and serving food) / **Glenda** (for helping our youngsters make vines and flowers) / **Sherrill & Sam** (for designing and printing our Family Night programs; donation of animal props) / **Brian Holt** (for arranging the donation of wood pallets from Walmart) / **Glen & Pam** (for donation of boating props) / **Helen** (for serving food and acquiring coupon gifts from Texas Roadhouse) / **Hayworth Miller** (for

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providing "python pizza" on Wednesday night) / **Jodie, Brad, Audrey** (for sharing Evee, your Bearded Dragon, with us) / **Wendy, Adrian, Carol, Waynard, Kathy, Jerry, John, Helen, Stephanie and Steve** (the Rainforest Foodies who prepared and served delicious snacks in our Bend of the River Café) / **Clyde** (who was deeply missed in the kitchen, but was attending in spirit and keeping in close contact for updates) / **Shelby & Jerry** (for photography, videography, and overall assistance in everything, especially laboriously hanging the "greens" that transformed the hallway into the jungle) / **Lisa** (for keeping the Facebook page covered with photos and updates). We're also grateful for our co-director, **Marshall**, for his endless enthusiasm and for his vision of putting a Disney spin on our decorations. The antique radio, along with the 40s music, hearkened the old time mood that is captured on the Jungle Cruise ride in the parks. Even our new parrot friend, Ravenscroft, was named for Thurl Ravenscroft, who narrated the Jungle Cruise soundtrack and voiced a Tiki Room bird long ago.

Every year, our young people become even more involved in setting the stage for this summer outreach. Many thanks go to **Catherine, Angie, Marshall Moore, Addison, Mackenzie, Watson, Lillie, Par-ran, and Anthony**. They taught little children, they decorated classrooms and hallways, they cut vines and hung them, they designed tissue paper flowers to add color to all the greenery, they shopped for snacks, they brought their own stuffed animals to set the jungle mood, they painted props, they filled in for absent puppets, they passed out helper gifts each night, and they stayed late setting up and cleaning up. These young people grew up immersed in the VBS excitement, and to see them now serving the Lord with their time, gifts, and talents... that's a satisfaction that is hard to describe. It truly touches our hearts to see them having such a desire to continue this special ministry.

Twenty years ago, in 2004, we directed our first Vacation Bible School here, and the many summers since are blended together into a precious stream of memories that include sing-alongs, snacks, backdrops, puppets, rainstorms, covered wagons, campfires, islands, time labs, castles, and cruises. But the common thread throughout has been the *Love of Jesus*. With grateful hearts, we thank you, church family, for loving children enough to reach out to them each summer with the Lord's love. For every neighbor you invited, for each grandchild you brought, for each prayer you lifted... thank you. May we give God the praise and honor for *all He has done*.

With Love, "River Guide Brucie" & "First Mate Whiskers"

"Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen." I Timothy 1:17

Duain & Faye Whittemore



ANCHOR
BAPTIST
MISSIONS
International

It is time to touch base with you again. Hopefully winter is over and we can enjoy some warmer weather. As I get older, I sure do enjoy the warmer weather! Concerning the work here at Anchor: God has truly blessed **exceedingly, abundantly, above ALL** we can ask or think.

One of the greatest blessings since our last letter was the voyage with Sea Hope to the island of Haiti. The ship was loaded with beans, rice and other necessary supplies. The Lord gave safety in and out of port and the supplies were received by the right people. **We bless the Lord for that opportunity!** We loaded out again with more supplies for

the children on May 1st. We had three of our young men who went with us. Haiti is a very dangerous place at this time, but **Safety is of the Lord.**

I had to cancel my trip to Bolivia. That's the first time I've ever had to cancel a trip, but I now see God's hand was it in as He is running things. On May 2, I went to South Dakota, where I preached a missions conference. Two ABMI missionary families attended this meeting seeking support.

The Lord has given two more church buildings in the Philippines for church plants. **We praise HIM** for that need being met! Missionary to Bolivia, Michael Ellzey, was able to acquire one hundred and thirty-five acres of property with two buildings, with a nice stream flowing through it. This particular property is located in a village with no church work. Plans for this property include a youth camp for all the other churches to enjoy. This is much needed there.

Oh, I'm so thankful that we serve a BIG God, who loves to supply our needs to serve Him and try to get the Gospel out. We love you and thank the Lord for your faithful support and prayers.

In His Service, *Duain & Faye Whittemore*

LIBERTY



Galatians 5:1 - *Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free . . .*

2 Corinthians 3:17 - *Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.*

Galatians 5:13 - *For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only use not liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another.*

Romans 8:21 - *Because the creature itself also shall be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.*

Dr. Charles (Chuck) Peters, Pastor Emeritus

Cell Phone: (336) 812-1169 ~ AVAILABLE FOR PULPIT SUPPLY

Genuine Turnaround



Genuine Christianity was displayed by the Thessalonian Christians, for they had experienced a genuine turnaround. "For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God; And to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, even Jesus, which delivered us from the wrath to come." – I Thessalonians 1:9-10 They had "turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God." These, who had turned, were then looking for the "return" of Christ, for the record says that they were waiting for "His Son from heaven!" I would point out that their turning to God also meant a turning from idols and not the other way around. Justification must precede sanctification! Saving grace includes sanctifying grace. God's grace enabled the Thessalonian believers to break with their idols, to serve Him, and to anticipate His Son's return.

The world is full of people with nothing but a mechanical religion and distorted understanding of what it means to be a Christian. Many attempt to distinguish their spirituality by "turning from" or a system of "thou shalt not." They are confused into thinking that a "backing away" from the world and sin is equivalent to "backing into" favor with God. A genuine turnaround is that of being set apart first in Christ. "Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:" – I Corinthians 1:2 We are both saved by grace and taught by grace! "Teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world;" – Titus 2:12 A "genuine turnaround" is all of God from start to finish! - **Chuck Peters**

Freedom in Christ

Focus on the Family — Larry Fowler

In the “land of the free,” we often confuse the true nature of freedom. For many of us, freedom has become synonymous with personal independence — the ability to make our own decisions and choose our own path in life, to do whatever we want, whenever we want. It’s what I call “outside freedom.” But this is not the freedom in Christ that we have been given.

When Jesus revealed himself as the Messiah, He said that He had come to Earth to “proclaim freedom” (Luke 4:18). And on another occasion, He said, “If the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed” (John 8:36).

Jesus was not setting us free to do whatever we wanted; He was freeing us to do what we ought to do. He was liberating us to walk in relationship with God and to be the kind of people He created us to be. This spiritual freedom in Christ is what I call “inside freedom” — the ability to obey God and choose His will for our lives.

And this is the freedom in Christ that sin had long denied us.

Jesus shocked the Pharisees, the spiritual leaders of His day, when He stated, “I tell you the truth, everyone who sins is a slave to sin” (John 8:34). Jesus was asserting that we are all under the power and control of a natural tendency to sin; we can’t get away from it by ourselves.

Sin brings a penalty that, by ourselves, we can’t escape either. The Bible says, “The wages of sin is death” (Romans 6:23).

How do we find freedom from the penalty and power of sin? That comes through accepting Jesus Christ’s death on the Cross as the payment for our sin. As we submit to Christ, sin loses its power — Christ’s power takes over. As we choose to trust and follow Him, our sinful habits, thoughts and attitudes lose their control. Guilt disappears, and peace of mind dominates. Right habits become the norm. That’s freedom in Christ — **true freedom!**



Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.



Focus Forward

Pastor Josh Jacquard ~ Victory Bible Baptist Church, Porter Corners, NY

My daughter’s playful run backward through our church’s Fellowship Hall ended abruptly with a collision. As she dusted herself off and changed direction, it served as a good reminder: running backward seldom yields good outcomes. We need our focus ahead, watching where we’re headed, not where we’ve been. Paul’s words echo this sentiment: “forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before.” Believers can’t advance while fixated on the past. Linger-ing on past wrongs, whether endured or committed, stalls our growth.

Redirecting our attention toward forgiveness and thankfulness propels us onward. Nostalgia for the ‘good old days’ keeps us anchored in what once was. Your finest moments need not remain behind you. They await your action; they are not contingent upon circumstances or others. It’s easy to attribute struggles to factors other than ourselves, but a fulfilling life and a close relationship with the Lord demands your effort and commitment.

President Theodore Roosevelt once said, “If you could kick the person in the pants responsible for most of your trouble, you wouldn’t sit for a month.” There is a lot of truth in that quote. We need to take personal responsibility for our lives and be determined to focus on what is in front of us. Christians need to be constantly advancing with a forward-march kind of mentality, always striving for progress and purpose. Your journey forward lies in your hands. Strengthen your relationship with the Lord, contribute to meaningful Christ-centered change, and make today shine brighter than yesterday.

Christian, fix your attention forward. Just as Paul indicates in Philippians 3:13, effective progress demands a forward focus. Failing to direct our attention forward often hinders pleasing the Lord, and many times it even brings progress to a screeching halt.

Philippians 3:13 KJV *Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before, I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.*