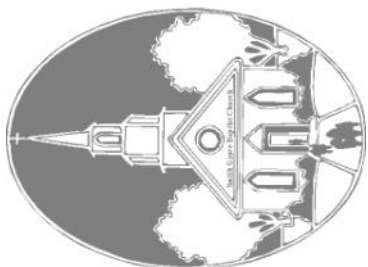


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First Class
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www.smithgrove.org

VOLUME 41
August 2024
ISSUE 485

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

The Messenger



August
2024



Smith Grove Baptist Church
2707 Sandy Ridge Road ~ Colfax, NC 27235
www.smithgrove.org

Rev. Bruce Freeman, 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/UCi39_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 . . .*

Sat., Aug. 3 , 6 pm - W-S Rescue Mission
Sun., Aug. 18 ~ BEAMS Sunday
Sun., Aug. 25 ~ First Responders Appreciation



Day. A meal will be served in the Fellowship Building after the service for all *Current & Retired First Responders* in attendance. **Thank you for your service!**

***** Every Wednesday (starting Aug.7), 3 pm, Robinwood Retirement Center.*****

Sundae Sundays: August 4, August 11, and August 18

Looking Ahead: Piedmont Baptist camp meeting ~ Sept. 4~6 at 7 pm.
(No Church or Youth Services that Wednesday.)

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.*



~The month of August got its name from the Ancient Romans who named this month for Augustus Caesar. Augustus made adjustments to the calendar since the extra day that was supposed to be every four years was actually every three years. This Roman named August after himself since Julius Caesar named July after himself.

~August is the time to reap what you've sown, quite literally even, as most summer vegetables are ready to be harvested.

~August was once the sixth month of the year. In the original ten-month Roman calendar, the month went by the name of Sextilis, meaning "the sixth month" in Latin. It wasn't until around 700BC that August was rudely shoved back in the order of months when January and February were added to the beginning of the year by King Numa Pompilius.

~August has also changed its number of days multiple times. In the ten-month Roman calendar, the months all had either 30 or 31 days, totaling 304 days in the year. Not only did Pompilius add January and February to the calendar, but he also reduced the number of days in August down to 29. It wasn't until Julius Caesar introduced the Julian calendar that it was left with 31 days, and it's stayed the same ever since!

~In August 1762 **the sandwich**, as we know it, was created when the Earl of Sandwich requested meat between two pieces of bread.

~August has three birthstones: sardonyx, spinel, and peridot. August also has two birth flowers – the vibrant gladiolus and the deep crimson poppy.

~Hawaii became the 50th state on August 21, 1959.

(Excerpts taken from thefactsite.com.)



BEAMS' Report for July 2024

of Pledges: 10; # of Contributions: 8;

Total Contributors: 18

Total Contributed: \$ 746.00 =

93 Bibles in July (plus some postage)

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

You can also get the BEAMS' report online at our website:

<https://www.smithgrove.org/beams-report/>

BEAMS ~ Although several ministries print tracts and New Testaments for missionaries, few ministries provide them with whole, hardback Bibles, free of charge. Therefore, this has become the primary purpose of BEAMS. We raise funds through offerings from local, independent, Bible-believing Baptist churches to purchase and supply whole, hardback Bibles for missionaries to give to those who are saved on the foreign mission fields. Since 1997 the BEAMS ministry has grown from supplying 50 Bibles a month to up to 10,000... from serving 12 missionaries to over 3,000 missionaries and national workers... and from three countries to more than 150 countries around the world! We supply only King James Bibles in English or its equivalent in other languages. If you would like to help supply Bibles for missionaries, contact us at office@beamsbibles.com or 228-832-1096

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_zpMzkkCXdFYv1NKndQ

To listen & download mp3:

Audio Archive Online ~ <https://www.smithgrove.org/audio-archive/>

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

Patsy Pendry

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

Carol Hayden

8413 Adkins Rd
 Colfax, NC 27235
 336-708-9435 ~ Sept. 01

Doris Nuckles

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

Bobbie Hayworth

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

*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)*

August Anniversaries

- 10 Johnny & Laura Smith
- 19 Calvin & Joy Vaughn



Challenging Church Signs

God answers knee-mail.
 Life has many choices. Eternity has two. What's yours?
 It's hard to stumble when you're on your knees.
 Forbidden fruit creates many jams.
 Christians: keep the faith . . . but not from others!
 Give God what's right, not what's left.
 Give the devil an inch and he'll be your ruler.
 Man's way leads to a hopeless end.
 God's way leads to an endless hope.
 A lot of kneeling will keep you in good standing.
 Kneel before Jesus and you can stand before anyone.
 To be almost saved is to be totally lost.

TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME
3931 WHITE HORSE RD., GREENVILLE, SC 29611
(864) 269-2760 Ext. 229 FAX (864) 269-6196
 E·MAIL: home@tabernacleministries.org

I am so thankful that the Lord has guided the children through another school year. It has been a year filled with learning, growing pains, excitement, and difficulties. We were able to see Terrell graduate from kindergarten and really begin his school journey and Paton and John Michael graduate from high school and prepare to face what God has for them as adults. Thank you so much for praying. Please continue to do so.

The home has incurred two major expenses this past month. The air conditioning unit for half of the children's home has been patched for the last time and needs to be replaced. The plumbing has also sprung a leak and major repairs need to be made to replace piping under our parking lot asphalt. Would you consider helping towards the cost that will be several thousands of dollars?

Terrell, Heaven, and Kentrell went home at the end of the school year. They remain part of our children's home family and are missed.

The summer months started off with a trip to Sand Mountain Bible Camp and Lake Winnie. The children had a wonderful time. Many of our children will be able to go to a couple of youth camps. That is always a highlight. We also look forward to attending the Greer Baptist Campmeeting. The summer will be gone before we realize.

Please continue to keep our ministry in your prayers. We are so thankful for your faithful support.

Kathi Sanney, TCH Director

Staff Spotlight ~ Mrs. Kathi Sanney has been our director for the past eleven years. Mrs. Sanney is married to Dr. Mark Sanney and is the mother of ten children. Mrs. Sanney was raised at Roloff Homes in Texas while her parents were on staff for Dr. Lester Roloff. She brings to the ministry a unique life filled with experiences as a child at a home, a pastor's wife, and mother and grandmother to multiple children. Her faithfulness, love for the Lord, and love for people of all ages makes her valuable to the ministry at Tabernacle. We are blessed to have her at the children's home.

Spotlight of Needs ~ We are looking ahead towards back-to-school needs. Please call the home office and we will supply a list of needed school items, and clothing sizes.

We're Traveling!

- July 28 Fellowship Baptist Church, Henersonville, NC
- August 4 Glassy Mountain Baptist Church, Landrum SC
- August 18 Blue Ranch Baptist, Gaffney, SC



Be Strong ~ Youth

Our young people have been busy savoring their long summer days, taking family trips and having fun outings with friends. In between these celebrations, our Wednesday gatherings have been spent reviewing some of the truths learned on our recent Jungle Cruise down the river.

Once the hurried flurry of VBS week is behind us, we find it's always special to go back and touch on the lessons at a slower, more relaxed pace throughout June and July. It also gives us the chance to explore science experiments, activities, or games that we didn't have time to cover in our VBS classrooms.

In revisiting the first C, **creation**, we pondered the Garden of Eden, and the way God designed a unique system in which the sun gives energy to plants. In turn, people and animals get energy from the plants they eat. Journeying through the jungle also gives us a peek at the specific ways God created the plants and animals there. 40,000 different species of plants grow in the rainforest, and they grow in different layers. For each layer, we made backdrops and attached them together with brass fasteners— from the “emergent layer” in the highest treetops, to the shady “canopy” below, to the “understory” beneath, and all the way down to the “forest floor” at the bottom. We drew in the animals that make their homes in each level, and marveled at the ways they're well-suited for their own habitats. The flyers, like parrots and bats, dominate the sunny tree tops while sloths and monkeys live in the dark tree limbs of the hot, moist canopy below. Not only do they have the fruits, leaves, and insects they need to eat, but these critters can also stay far above the forest floor, hidden away from the many predators that lurk below. If you were a slowly-creeping sloth, wouldn't you feel safer in the trees, camouflaged and tucked away from the speedy jaguars and crocodiles on the forest floor? In His wisdom, the Lord has intricately designed all creatures to be part of their own ecosystem, with exactly what they need to survive. If He has given such attention to detail to His creation, how much more can we trust Him to care for our needs?

Next, we reviewed **corruption**, when sin entered God's perfect paradise. Once Adam and Eve disobeyed, the following generations became more and more wicked, until God sent **catastrophe** through Noah's flood. Genesis 7:11 tells us that “the windows of heaven opened”, but another source of the global flood was the “fountains of the great deep” that broke and burst. We discussed the layers of the earth beneath us... the crust, the mantle, and the core. During this catastrophic event, massive earthquakes and volcanoes opened up the crust, releasing water, steam, and lava. To demonstrate, we made a model of a shield volcano using a cup nestled in some tin foil. To stage the chemical reaction and mimic an eruption, the cup held the “base”, a mixture of baking soda, dish soap, water, and red food coloring. To everyone's delight, pouring some vinegar (the “acid”) into the contents of the cup caused bubbling red “lava” to spew and spill over the sides of our makeshift volcano. In this troublesome world today, it gives us comfort remembering that God had His hand on Noah and his family during the dangers of the worldwide flood. All the while, *they were safely*



tucked inside the ark. Likewise, when we have stepped on board with Jesus, He has not only saved our souls, He promises to stay beside us throughout the journey of life. He is always in control, no matter what we face, in the midst of whatever calamity we find ourselves.

The youngsters have enjoyed revisiting their “Great Jungle Journey” over these summery weeks. Now that the carefree days of summer are dwindling, and the adventures of a new school year are beckoning, our young people are gearing up for all the learning and growing ahead. As the Lord walks with them into all that He has ahead for them, we know they will also carry the truths of God's Word in their hearts. While they tackle the coming lessons in history and science, may Jesus continually remind them that the 7 Cs of HIStory are the framework for our faith. They prove that, from the beginning of time, God set His amazing plan of redemption into place, to unfold in His perfect timing. Seeing His past provision and design at every turn helps give us strength, hope, and courage for the future. We deeply appreciate your prayers for our young people as they soon face the challenges of a new school year.

Thankful Always for You All,
Bruce, Darla, and Marshall

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 ~ *August Spotlight*



Name: *Marshall Moore*
Age: 17
Birthday: June 18
School: Triad Baptist Christian Academy
Hobbies: Fishing, Astrophotography, and Playing Piano
Favorite Bible Verse: Proverbs 3:6 *“In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.”*

Why I love SGBC: I love SGBC because of the messages and people that come from it. Our Pastor is great along with the sermons he gives. My family and friends also attend here, making it all the better.



~ Old Glory ~

(by Hal Harless, shared at our July 4th Celebration Service, June 30, 2024)

If our flag could speak, these are the words that it would say.

I am the United States of America flag, and some call me Old Glory. I fly atop some of the world's tallest buildings and stand watch in America's halls of Justice. I fly majestically across the great institutions and stand guard with the world's greatest military. I stand for peace, truth, honor, Justice, and freedom. I am confident, brave, proud, and ready. I fly a little higher when flown with my fellow banners. I bow to no one except for my God.

Recognized worldwide, I am independent, saluted, respected, and honored. My military loves me, and yet my enemies fear me. For more than 200 years, I was carried in every battle of every war and not forgotten by all who were there with me. I know because I was there. I lived with my special operations forces in the quiet of the night and at the tip of the sphere. I saw them fight fearlessly throughout the globe every day of the year. I watched over them even through the casualties of many battles. September 11th, as terrorists attacked America, I was raised from the ashes by brave firefighters, heroes risking their lives to save others. While bloody, no country can ever destroy America if we are one nation under God. I've been soiled, burned, torn, and trampled in the streets of my own country, and when done by those who I served with in battle, it hurts. Hear me when I say I will overcome because I am strong. I have slipped the bonds of Earth to my vantage point on the moon and uncharted frontiers of space. I've been a silent witness to all of America's finest hours. In the past, I've been torn and used to cover the wounds of my comrades on the battlefield. I fly half mast to honor my military brothers and sisters, but most importantly, when placed into the trembling arms of a grieving relative at the gravesite of their fallen father, son, or daughter.

***I am proud to be called Old Glory.
Long may I wave; may GOD protect me.***



Dr. Charles (Chuck) Peters, Pastor Emeritus

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

The Reason and Season for Joy

True joy is rare in this stressful world and even in the Christian world. Joy is defined as, "feeling great delight with present or expected good." This is the world's definition, for many people equate joy with feeling good. Christian joy is the joy found in the Lord and is an independent joy. It is a joy independent of "enjoyable conditions" and includes a cheerfulness independent from cheerful conditions. It is a joy which survives difficult conditions, to include a famine in the land. "Although the fig tree shall not blossom, neither shall fruit be in the vines; the labour of the olive shall fail, and the fields shall yield no meat; the flock shall be cut off from the fold, and there shall be no herd in the stalls: Yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will joy in the God of my salvation." – Habakkuk 3:17-18

Christian joy is a fruit of the Spirit. "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith," – Galatians 5:22 The Christian life is illustrated by a garden plant. When the "root system" is right, the "fruit system" is right. "Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the faith, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with thanksgiving." – Colossians 2:7

The reason and season for Christian joy is stated by a man who once told a crew on board of a sinking ship to cheer up and then later wrote from prison these words: "Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice." – Philippians 4:4 The real reason for joy is seen in a living relationship with the living Lord. "Rejoice in the Lord." The season for joy is stated in the word, "alway." The priority of joy is seen in the final words in the verse. "and again I say, Rejoice". I also would add that "Rejoice" is capitalized!

The Lord and salvation in Him are the reason for joy and the season is always or forever. We all need to square up our emotions with Scripture and through the aid of the Holy Spirit! Life's tough but God is good and joy is still available in Christ. A smiley face is okay but a joyful heart is better! – Chuck Peters

"JESUS first, OTHERS next, YOURSELF last." It's a brief, yet meaningful way to express this right order in our relationship with Christ and others. There is joy in serving Him, in giving and living for others, and being forgetful of self. Christ in us makes this outlook possible. He is the source of our joy because He alone is the One who upholds and sustains us at every moment of our existence. In His providential embrace, may we find the completion of joy in Him, the first fruit of eternal glory.



The piece below was written by Darla Freeman, some nine years ago. Its message is so poignant and dear to my heart, that I feel compelled to share it frequently, as summer lengthens. ...The Editor
"At a loss" ... that's where my words have stayed over the summer. I've searched for the proper words to write, but I always come up empty.

My thoughts and my pen have had no words to describe the state of my beloved grandma, and sometimes I haven't even known how to pray for her. The ongoing struggle heightened four months ago, when she stumbled backward and simply bumped her head on her kitchen counter. Though she seemed fine at first, the resulting brain bleed led to seizures, which led to her hospital stay, which led to long weeks in a rehab facility. . . then a "welcome home" that seemed more foreign than familiar. Throughout her struggles to recover, my memory has wandered back to the prayers I've lifted up for her in the past few years: "Dear Lord, protect Grandma in these last years of her life ... *guard her steps*, and most of all, don't let Grandma *lose her joy*."

But it wasn't to be, and perhaps that's why I've wrestled so ... the two requests I'd earnestly prayed about for years are the very robbers that God allowed to come. Grandma did fall, despite her guarded steps, and now her joyful spirit rarely sparkles in her twinkling eyes. We long to hear her head-tossed-back, opened-mouth "cackle," a deep and hearty laugh that she's lovingly known for. Her weary daughters (my mama and my auntie) search Grandma's 95-year-old face for a glimmer of peace, but it seems only sorrow and anxiety gleam in her tired eyes now. I have to admit, I have struggled with this, and there are moments when my faith has wavered. How could this strong woman of faith, the spiritual rock of our family, suddenly become so frail and so fearful? What about the prayers I have prayed, that she might be filled with peace and joy 'til the end of her earthly days? The senseless struggle has stirred within my soul. Yet in His wisdom, God has faithfully addressed my questions and eased my uncertainty for Grandma in this storm. And as He often does, He gently used an unexpected messenger.

Years ago, my green-thumbed grandma transplanted a cutting of her lilac bush in our yard. I was honored to watch the tiny bush grow and thrive as seasons passed – a faithful, green reminder of Grandma's gift for growing blossoms ... they've always flourished in her care. But on a recent summer Saturday, as he spread mulch, Bruce mentioned that I might want to check on Grandma's lilac ... maybe we should consider "moving it when the days get cooler," he said, as I watered my flowers. So, dragging the water hose along, I crossed the yard to inspect the struggling little shrub. Along the edge of the woods, the rim of shade has grown, along with the bordering trees, and the lilac's once-sunny spot is now blotched with dark shadows. I fingered the frail limbs, leaning instinctively toward the sunlight just out of their reach. I noticed the whole bush actually appeared crooked as it bent out of the shady ledge, grappling for the light.



Lilac Lessons



I recalled how nary a blossom had been seen all season ... it's as though every ounce of the lilac's energy is spent stretching ... reaching out of the darkness and striving for the sun. With that thought, I caught my breath and the leaning lilac's message to me summoned the tears to puddle on the rims of my lashes. In her dark place, our precious grandma has been wearily reaching for the Light. And though she is struggling ... Jesus is very near, just beyond the shadows. He knows all about Grandma's fall and all the heartaches it set into motion. He knows that, right now, in the shadows of this weakness, it takes all of Grandma's strength just to survive, and that's why we rarely see a glimpse of her usual "blossoms" ... her teasing, her laughter, her songs. I lifted the water hose to the lilac's roots and gave it a deep, long soaking, then coated its branches with sparkling, nourishing water. Tenderly grasping and watering the lilac's parched leaves, I watched them eagerly drink it up, their emerald sheen gleaming in the speckled sunlight. I know that, as long as the lilac lives in this shady spot, it will weaken and thirst for another place ... my eyes closed as I pictured another season for Grandma's lilac ... perhaps even by next summer ... in a new, sun-drenched spot elsewhere, it will grow steady and thrive again, its lacy-lavender blossoms hanging heavy on straight, sturdy limbs reaching skyward. Oh, what a hope we have in heaven! I prayerfully whispered, "Dear Lord, You know what Grandma needs in this season of her life. You have loved her through all of her yesterdays and You'll love her through all of her tomorrows. We trust Your care of her and know You will heal her ... maybe here in her earthly home, but definitely in her heavenly home. Please let her feel Your peaceful presence." Just then, even on this warmest of summer days, the gentlest breeze instantly swept across my tear-stained cheek. Reassured, I smiled ... to bring hope to my troubled heart, the Lord had used an unlikely messenger ... *a leaning lilac that longs for a new place in the sun.*

The hymn-writer, Fanny Crosby, whose physical blindness kept her in the shadows, put it this way, "There are depths of love that I cannot know 'til I cross the narrow sea. There are heights of joy that I may not reach 'til I rest in peace with Thee" ... that's it ... the new place we all yearn for ... in the Son ... the reason our redeemed hearts reach and stretch for our heavenly home. And the moment of our crossing is left up to our Savior, Whose timing is always perfect ... never too early, never too late, but always precisely on time. So, we trust Him in Grandma's journey, as we ease her through moments of sorrow ... and as we grasp hold of every treasured glimpse of the witty, playful grandma that still shines through from time to time. More than ever before, I'm grateful for her crooked little lilac bush, an unexpected lesson whose outstretched limbs will always remind me of the longing in our weary souls ... a living picture of our leaning to the Light, in Whose presence we will someday thrive, whole and healed, blooming for His glory forevermore. "For our citizenship is in heaven, from which we also eagerly wait for the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, Who will transform our lowly body that it may be conformed to His glorious body, according to the working by which He is able even to subdue all things to Himself." ~Philippians 3:20-21

Beloved Grandma Neva Long ~ December 19, 1919 ~ April 25, 2022