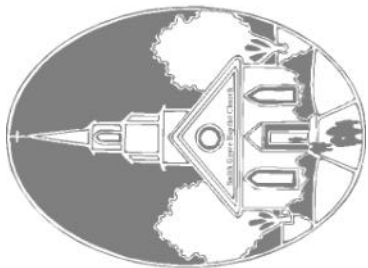


Must have
First Class
Stamp



www.smithgrove.org

VOLUME 42
April 2025
ISSUE 493

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*



April
2025



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 . . .*

April




Sat., April 5, 6 pm - W-S Rescue Mission

Sun., April 20, 7 am ~ Easter Sunrise Service with a message by Pastor Chuck Peters. Breakfast will be served after the message. **At 11 am** the choir will present the Easter Cantata, ***Because He Lives***, followed by a message from Pastor Bruce. **Also ~ BEAMS Sunday**
~ NO EVENING SERVICE ~

Robinwood Retirement Ctr. ~ Every Wednesday at 3:00 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.

The Optimistic Frog

Two frogs fell into a deep cream bowl,
One was an optimistic soul;
But the other took a gloomy view,
“We shall drown,” he cried without more ado.

So with a last despairing cry,
He flung up his legs and he said, “Good-bye.”
Quoth the other frog with a merry grin,
“I can’t get out but I won’t give in.

I’ll just swim ’round ’til my strength is spent,
Then I will die the more content.”
Bravely he swam ’til it would seem
His struggles began to churn the cream;
On the top of the butter at last he stopped

And out of the bowl he gaily hopped.
What of the moral? ‘Tis easily found;
If you can’t get out, keep swimming around.

Lord Robert Stephen Smyth Baden-Powell (Founder of the Boy Scouts)

*“With men it is impossible but not with God; for with God
all things are possible” (Mark 10:27).*



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 (Savannah, GA) } 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)

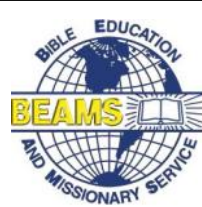
1stSgt Gregory Reynolds, Marines, Camp Pendleton, CA.

(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 2025

of Pledges: 6; # of Contributions: 5;
Total Contributors: 11
Total Contributed: \$ 482.00 =
60 Bibles in March (plus some postage)

*Many thanks to all those who gave monies to the BEAMS’ ministry
specifically for postage which added \$ 210.00 in March!*

You can also get the BEAMS’ report online at our website:
<https://www.smithgrove.org/beams-report/>

Reflect upon your blessings,
of which every man has plenty,
not on your past misfortunes,
of which all men have some.

~Charles Dickens~

James 1:17 - Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Luke 6:38 - Give, and it shall be given unto you; good measure, pressed down, and shaken together, and running over . . .

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 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

Terry Matthews

1798 Sandy Ridge Rd.
 Colfax, NC 27235
 336-362-9682 ~ May 18

Dovie Dull

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

Esther Campbell

Brookdale - Skeet Club - Room 38
 1560 Skeet Club Rd.
 High Point, NC 27265
 336-317-2093 ~ May 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)*

April Anniversaries

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



"What happens when a frog parks illegally?"

... He gets TOAD!"



TABERNACLE BAPTIST CHILDREN'S HOME

3931 WHITE HORSE RD, GREENVILLE, SC 29611

PHONE: (864) 269-2760 Ext. 229

E-MAIL: home@tabernacleministries.org

BRO. DOUG BENTON- PASTOR MRS. KATHI SANNEY - DIR. OF CHILDREN'S HOME

From Our Director:

We have had a great start to 2025. Believe it or not, our January included two different snowfalls! While neither produced much accumulation, the children loved getting to have the snow and a few days off school is always warmly welcomed by them all.

Our children are doing well in school and many have enjoyed being a part of the basketball teams. Our girls' team has been blessed to make it to State. They are thrilled for the opportunity to play in the postseason.

Several of our young people participated in homecoming; this is always a great time to honor their achievements. Vincent was awarded homecoming king and wore the crown proudly. Vincent has grown into such a wonderful young man; it is hard to believe that he is a few months away from graduation. His class will be taking their senior trip in May, they are certainly excited. He is currently working on saving up the funds to cover his plane ticket.



~ Kathi Sanney

Spotlight: We are pleased to announce that Tabernacle has been blessed with a new pastor! We are so thankful that God brought us Pastor Doug Benton and his wife Misty. Their youngest daughter, Haley, will also be moving from Tennessee with them. Pastor Benton was previously the pastor of Morristown Baptist Tabernacle in Morristown, TN and has supported the Children's Home for many years. We are excited to see what God has in store as the Lord directs him in the leadership of our church and ministries.



'Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this, To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unspotted from the world'
 James 1:27

Spotlight of Needs: Cough Drops; Airborne; Kleenex; Vincent's plane ticket funds. "A larger list is available upon request."

We're Traveling!

[Places they visited...the editor] February 16 Rockwell Baptist Church, Mooresville, NC; February 23 New Life Baptist Church, Bessemer City, NC; March 9 Friendship Baptist Church, Myrtle Beach, SC; March 16 Community Baptist Church Bladenboro, NC

Dr. Harold B. Sightler, Founder
 A Ministry of Tabernacle Baptist Church



Be Strong ~ Youth

On a recent blustery Wednesday, when a line of storms had moved through our area, our young people recalled the impact the weather had made on their morning. Driving rains and gusty winds hindered our traveling; local tornado warnings kept students sitting on hallway floors; and extreme wind even shattered a school cafeteria window!

With such visuals still fresh on our minds, we turned to Mark's gospel to explore what Jesus teaches us about the unexpected storms that arise in our lives.

After a long day of teaching at Capernaum, Jesus and His disciples sent the multitude away and prepared to board a boat at the Sea of Galilee. Jesus told them, "Let us pass over unto **the other side**." (Mark 4:35) Situated 680 feet below sea level, and surrounded by hills, this body of water frequently has sudden and violent storms. As they crossed, a great wind arose, creating tumultuous waves that beat and filled the small ship. Even though these seasoned fishermen were used to the volatile temperament of this water, they panicked at the thought of sinking, and they began to look for Jesus. Surprised, they found Him in the back of the boat, asleep on a pillow! They must've sounded a little indignant as they desperately shook Him awake... "Master, carest Thou not that we perish?" The Lord arose and calmly spoke to the winds and waves, "Peace, be still." In an instant, the water was smooth and the mighty winds ceased. Jesus questioned His frazzled men, "Why are ye so fearful? How is it that ye have no faith?" And the men marveled at His power over nature.

But to be fair, Jesus was still new to these disciples who had only recently answered the call to follow Him. They were only beginning to see the wonders of His power and His love, and Jesus used the calming of the howling wind and rising waves to strengthen the faith of His new disciples. But for us who have followed Him for a long time, we don't really have a good excuse when in the midst of our storms, we plead, "Jesus, where are you? We're dying... do you care?" How often we underestimate His power in our lives, and how easily we forget that He lovingly holds us in His hands!

Despite their short span of years, our young people were able to share many unexpected storms they have faced in their lifetimes already. In our own hearts we pondered the trials and situations that cause us the most anxiety, then we realized that we have two choices when storms arise: we can panic and worry, assuming that Jesus doesn't care; OR we can ask Him to help us resist fear and put our trust in Him. In the midst of our raging storms, Jesus is on board the wind-tossed boat with us... calm enough to rest, because He knows how it all turns out. Oh, how we can praise Him when He stills the sudden storms that we never saw coming! And it's a significant detail that Jesus suggested they pass to "the other side" on that stormy evening at the Sea of Galilee. In our own little ships of life, we can be assured that He is not only on board with us as the storm rages, but we can trust Him to carry us safely through it... and to **the other side** of it.

Grateful Always For His Presence,
Bruce, Darla, and Marshall

The Carpenter

Once upon a time, two brothers who lived on adjoining farms fell into conflict. It was the first serious rift in 40 years of farming side-by-side, sharing machinery and trading labor and goods as needed without a hitch.

Then the long collaboration fell apart. It began with a small misunderstanding and it grew into a major difference and finally, it exploded into an exchange of bitter words followed by weeks of silence.

One morning there was a knock on the older brother's door. He opened it to find a man with a carpenter's toolbox. "I'm looking for a few days' work," he said. "Perhaps you would have a few small jobs here and there I could help with? Do you have anything, Sir?"

"Yes," said the older brother. "I do have a job for you. Look across the creek at that farm. That's my neighbor. In fact, it's my younger brother! Last week there was a meadow between us. He recently took his bulldozer to the river levee and now there is a creek between us. Well, he may have done this to spite me, but I'll do him one better. See that pile of lumber by the barn? I want you to build me a fence, an 8-foot fence so I won't need to see his place or his face anymore." The carpenter said, "I think I understand the situation. Show me the nails and the post-hole digger and I'll be able to do a job that pleases you."

The older brother had to go to town, so he helped the carpenter get the materials ready and then he was off for the day. The carpenter worked hard all that day – measuring, sawing and nailing. About sunset when the farmer returned, the carpenter had just finished his job.

The farmer's eyes opened wide; his jaw dropped. There was no fence there at all. It was a bridge . . . a bridge that stretched from one side of the creek to the other! A fine piece of work, handrails and all! And his younger brother was coming toward them, his hand outstretched.

"You are quite a fellow to build this bridge after all I've said and done!" The two brothers stood at each end of the bridge, and then they met in middle, taking each other's hand. They turned to see the carpenter hoist his toolbox onto his shoulder.

"No, wait! Stay a few days. I've a lot of other projects for you," said the older brother. "I'd love to stay on," the carpenter said, "but I have many more bridges to build."

Matthew 13:55 "Is not this the carpenter's son? . . ."

Our Savior, the carpenter's son, inspired writers of old to encourage peace and forgiveness . . . Matthew 5:9 - *Blessed are the peacemakers: for they shall be called the children of God.* Romans 12:18 - *If it be possible, as much as lieth in you, live peaceably with all men.* 1 Thessalonians 5:13 - *And to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And be at peace among yourselves.* Mark 11:25 - *And when ye stand praying, forgive, if ye have ought against any: that your Father also which is in heaven may forgive you your trespasses.*

Peace, Be Still

The Collection Plate

There was a nine year-old boy who lived in a rural town in Tennessee. His house was in a poor area of the community. A church had a bus ministry, and the bus pastor came knocking on his door one afternoon. The child came to answer the door and the bus pastor asked if his parents were home. The small boy told him that his parents were working all weekend - he was on his own. The bus pastor couldn't believe what the child said and asked him if he was okay. The youngster said that his neighbors come by to check on him, and he was fine. Feeling somewhat better about the situation, the bus pastor asked to come in and talk with him. They went into the living room and sat down on an old couch with the foam and springs exposed.

The bus pastor asked the child, "Where do you go to church? The young boy surprised the visitor by replying, "I've never been to church in my whole life."

The bus pastor thought sadly to himself about the fact that his church was less than three miles from the child's house. "Are you sure you have never been to church?" he asked again. "I sure haven't," came his answer.

Then the bus pastor said, "Well, son, more important than going to church, have you ever heard the greatest love story ever told?" and then he proceeded to share the Gospel with this little nine year-old boy. God began to deal with the young boy's heart, and the bus pastor asked if the boy wanted to receive this free gift from God. The youngster exclaimed, "You bet!"

The child and the bus pastor got on their knees and the lad invited Jesus into his little heart and received the free gift of salvation. They both stood up and the bus pastor asked if he could pick the child up for church the next morning. "Sure," the nine-year-old replied.

As promised, the bus pastor came by early the next morning to give the young boy a ride to church. Once settled into a pew, the little child just sat there, not understanding all that was going on. A few minutes into the service two tall gentlemen walked down to the front and picked up some wooden plates. One of the men prayed and the child with utter fascination watched them walk up and down the aisles.

All of a sudden, like a bolt of lightning it hit the child what was taking place. These people must be giving money to Jesus. He then reflected on the free gift of life he had received just twenty-four hours earlier. He immediately searched his pockets, front and back, and couldn't find a thing to give Jesus.

By this time the offering plate was being passed down his aisle and with a broken heart he watched it pass on down the aisle. His eyes remained glued on the plate as it was passed back and forth, back and forth all the way to the rear of the sanctuary. Then he had an idea. This little nine-year-old boy, in front of God and everybody, got up out of his seat. He walked about eight rows back, grabbed the usher by the coat and asked to hold the plate one more time. Then he did the most astounding thing. He took the plate, sat it on the carpeted church floor and stepped into the center of it. As he stood there, he lifted his little head up and said, "Jesus, I don't have anything to give you today, but just me. I give you me!"

Romans 12:1 - *I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.*

Every Day Can Be Easter

By Calvin Vaughn

Easter represents the **resurrection** of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Have you ever considered as a born again sinner that **we too experience a resurrection**? Webster defines resurrection as "the rising again to life of all the human dead or the state of one risen from the dead."

~We can look at the following scripture to see that truth: **2 Corinthians 5:17** - **Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he* is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**

~Each time we die to self and live for Christ, we experience anew the *gift of the resurrection*. You may question this statement claiming "Each Time we die" and say how's that? Think about the fact that every day we are faced with our carnality and our spirituality. **James 1:12** **Blessed is the man that endureth temptation: for when he is tried, he shall receive the crown of life, which the Lord hath promised to them that love him.**

~With this mind we can better understand a daily resurrection. This is a constant battle that we don't need to fight alone. **2 Peter 2:9** **The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished:**

~We saw the leaves falling and flowers fading several months ago when winter began and everything withered. As everything around us changes and in some cases disappears for a time, we can take comfort in the words of Jesus from the following passage: **John 12:24** **Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except a corn of wheat fall into the ground and die, it abideth alone: but if it die, it bringeth forth much fruit.**

~The last five words of John 12:24 gives us His Promise. He knew that when His death came, it would seem final to the disciples, so He planted these words in their hearts to help them understand. When He was raised from the dead, they realized He had prepared them to practice resurrection.

~How do we *practice* resurrection? We haven't died yet, after all!

2 Corinthians 5:17 **Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he* is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new**

First, we let go of our old ways of living, our selfish desires, and our pride. In doing this, we experience a kind of death—one from which we are "made alive in the spirit" **1 Peter 3:18** **For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit:**

Second, we embrace the faith and hope Jesus provided. This happens in a powerful way every time we gather with other believers, confessing our sin and receiving God's forgiveness and mercy.

We worship together in faith that our Savior has died and risen from the grave. And we worship also in hope that the new life we now enjoy partially will be enjoyed completely when Christ comes again.

The Three Nails

This is a story of long ago – of a man who owned a little store.
As he would tell it, “I was proud to have my name above the door.”

This took place, oh, about two thousand years ago, as I recall,
I was located in Jerusalem, just across the street from Pilate’s hall.

And I had everything anyone would ever need;
Why, folks would come from miles around, regardless of their creed.

But the only thing I had I didn’t think I could ever sell,
Was in a corner on a shelf – just three old rusty spike nails.

Then one day a Roman soldier came through the door,
And as he walked up to me, it seemed he shook the floor.
I said, “Can I help you, Sir?” in a voice I’m sure seemed frail.

He looked at me with a sneering grin and said,
“I’d like to buy some nails - some big, big nails.”

“Well, you see, Sir, three’s all I have.”

“Oh, That’ll do. For the job I have, three’s enough . . .

Now how much do I owe you?”

He placed the money in my hand, and I was glad to make the sale.

Then I began to wonder, and I asked,

“Sir, what can you do with just three spike nails?”

“Did you ever hear of a man called Jesus the Nazarene?”

“You mean the one they call the Son of God?”

“Yes, that’s the one. Today I intend to show the world who’s boss,
For with these three nails I’m going to nail that man Jesus to a cross.”

You’ll never know how numb I felt - as on my knees I fell.

“Please sir, don’t do that!” - but he just turned and walked away

I said, “Please, let me buy them back!”

But he just looked at me and grinned.

And in the distance, I could see the howling mob

Through the tears that filled my eyes.

“Away with him!” “Crucify him!” I could hear their angry cries.

But over the top of all the noise and groans of agony,
I can still hear the sound of a hammer as that big Roman soldier

Nailed my Jesus to a tree.”

With three rusty nails, they nailed Jesus to a tree;

And His blood washed my sins away.

Written and published by Jimmie Davis Music Co., Inc.

Words adapted for use by David Zimmerman



HE
is
RISEN

Christ Cursed for Us

“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made
a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth
on a tree:” – Galatians 3:13

The sufferings of Christ upon the cross involved suffering
from the hand of God beyond human understanding. Though His
physical sufferings were overwhelming, His spiritual sufferings
were incomprehensible, “For he hath made him to be sin for us,
who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of
God in him.” (II Cor.5:21) Jesus became a sin substitute for the
sin of all sinners and, in fact, tasted death for all mankind. (ref.
Heb.2:9)

God dealt with His Son in judgment and the full wrath of God
fell upon this, the spotless Lamb of God. He was cursed in the
sinner’s stead and paid the sin debt in full. The only answer to
the sin problem inherent in Adam’s entire race is to, by faith,
place trust where God placed our sins! The sinner has to embrace
the finished work of Christ upon that cross. Only those who
looked to that elevated serpent of brass in the wilderness were
healed of the deadly serpent bite. Jesus was lifted upon a cross.
He was made sin and was cursed on our behalf.

Salvation, or deliverance from the deadly serpent bite of sin,
is only made possible when the sinner recognizes the fact of their
sin and then by faith trust the One Who died as their substitute.
“And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so
must the Son of man be lifted up: That whosoever believeth in
him should not perish, but have eternal life. For God so loved
the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever
believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.” –
John 3:14-16

Chuck Peters, April 2010