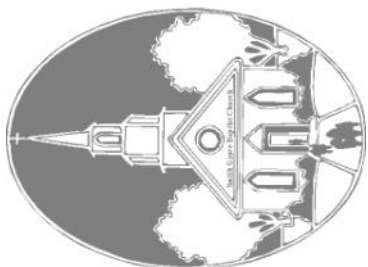


Must have  
First Class  
Stamp



[www.smithgrove.org](http://www.smithgrove.org)

**VOLUME 42**  
**August 2025**  
**ISSUE 497**

**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 2025



**Smith Grove Baptist Church**  
2707 Sandy Ridge Road ~ Colfax, NC 27235  
[www.smithgrove.org](http://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](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. 2, 6 pm - W-S Rescue Mission**

**Sun., Aug. 10, 6 pm - Missionary Howard Miller** will share an update on his mission work in the Philippines.

**Sun., Aug. 17 ~ BEAMS Sunday**

**Robinwood Retirement Ctr. ~ Wednesdays at 3:00 pm**

**Sunday Sundaes ~ Aug. 3, 10, 17, 24, 31**

**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.

## *This Brand New Day*

© Abimbola T. Alabi

This brand new day I go in faith,  
But I know not what lies in wait,  
So dear God, this morning I pray,  
Take control and lead the way.

Show me today the journeys to make.  
Steer me on the right paths to take.  
Grant me grace to discern your will,  
For when to strive and when to be still.

I do not see with these two eyes,  
I cannot tell where danger lies.  
Please, dear Lord, be my guide.  
Let me not stray from Your side.

Help me to love and trust You more  
And radiate Your love to my neighbor.  
Then bring me back safe and sound,  
And let my praise for You abound.

*Amen.*

Abimbola T. Alabi. "This Brand New Day." Family Friend Poems, March 12, 2018. <https://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/this-brand-new-day>

**Philippians 4:6** - *Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.*

**Mark 11:24** - *Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*

**1 Thessalonians 5:17** - Pray without ceasing.

## 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 July 2025

# of Pledges: 11; # of Contributions: 7;  
Total Contributors: 18  
Total Contributed: \$ 674.00 =  
84 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/>

In 1970, Dr. Julian Pope, a veteran missionary for 47 years, began the Precious Seed Ministry out of Baptist Tabernacle of Shreveport, Louisiana. The purpose of this ministry was to provide Scriptures for missionaries serving the Lord overseas.

In 1972, Dr. Pope founded BEAMS (Bible Education and Missionary Service). At this point, the ministry was expanded to include conducting missions conferences in churches; sending Scriptures, Bible courses, and other literature to missionaries; and going overseas for evangelistic campaigns and Bible seminars.

In 1982, BEAMS was relocated to Longview, Texas; then to Hot Springs, Arkansas; and later to Houston, Texas. After Dr. Pope went to be with the Lord in 1989, Dr. Mike Mentor became President and Director of BEAMS until 1996.

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](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 ~ September 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) ~ September 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



- I tried to come up with a carpentry pun that woodwork.  
 I think I nailed it.
- That moment in time when you're worried about the elderly . . .  
 And then realize you are the elderly. Ugh!
- If you boil a funny bone, it becomes a laughing stock ...  
 Now that's humerus.



*Precious Memories*

I found myself looking at my hand while I laid in bed this evening and what I saw seemed to be the hand of a stranger. In seeing this I was immediately taken back to a little country church where a small boy sat beside his Mamaw.

Holding her hand he would look at every nuance of her skin, the softness and the furrows that time had placed upon them. The veins were more pronounced. But I found that hand to be so dear because I was aware of the tender love that was wrapped around my little fingers. Nothing could be so special for me in that moment. And now that I am not able to hold her hand any longer, the treasure of that moment is more precious to me.

And upon returning my focus to that strange hand before me I find it is not so strange any longer. She is still holding my hand, for my hand has come to look like hers. Her hand is still in mine.

.....by Faron Johnson



**The Hands of Time, Touched by Grace**

Wrinkled and worn, these hands tell a tale,  
 Of sun-kissed mornings and storms that prevailed.  
 They once held a child, so tiny and new,  
 And pointed to Jesus, the path ever true.  
 These hands worked the fields, and labored with might,  
 To provide for their loved ones, from morning till night.  
 They folded in prayer, with petitions sincere,  
 And trusted the Lord to cast out every fear.  
 The creases and lines, a map etched so deep,  
 Hold memories cherished, secrets to keep.  
 Of struggles and triumphs, of laughter and tears,  
 Of clinging to faith throughout all of the years.  
 Now frail and arthritic, perhaps a bit slow,  
 These hands still extend, love and kindness to show.  
 They offer a touch, a comforting hold,  
 A testament vibrant, stories untold.  
 For in these dear hands, God's grace shines so bright,  
 Reflecting a journey guided by His light.  
 They've served Him faithfully, through blessings and pain,  
 And point to the heavens, where they'll meet Him again.  
 So honor these hands, with respect and with praise,  
 For they bear the imprint of God's amazing grace.



## Be Strong ~ Youth

Our young people are busy making the most of their last few weeks of carefree summer days! Between trips with family and friends, they gather on Wednesday evenings for games, snacks, and fellowship with one another. The teens have also enjoyed providing “Sunday Sundaes” for our Sunday evening crowds. They will continue into August, so we hope many of you will still have a chance to join us in the fellowship hall after the 6:00 service. We’re so grateful Stephanie envisioned this project as a way to raise money for the Indian Reservation where Missionary John Coleman ministers. Under her direction, our youngsters have served up an assortment of goodies... ice cream, varied toppings, and even peach cobbler! At just \$2 a person, they offer a welcome treat as well as a fun opportunity to relax and visit with our church family.

Some members of our tight knit little group are preparing for some BIG adventures in the weeks ahead. Marshall Moore will soon leave for Appalachian State University in Boone; Abi Jones will be heading to the University of South Carolina at Beaufort; and Bailey Matthews will attend GTCC. Through teary eyes, we will say our goodbyes, knowing we will miss their sweet smiles on Wednesday nights. But we entrust them to our wise and loving Lord. We know He is with them, guiding their steps, guarding their hearts, protecting their lives, and inspiring their dreams. Thank you for joining with us as we pray for them and their families in these exciting yet challenging days.

Even as we pray together for our college-bound friends, we are also lifting up the concerns of all our remaining young people as they soon begin a new school year. And so, with prayer in mind, our youngest group has continued with their “Talking With God” study. It’s our hope that our children will develop lifelong habits of prayer in this timely series! We have introduced the imPACT prayer model to help instill the elements of humble conversations with God~ **P**raise-**A**sk-**C**onfess-**T**hank. Although God wants us to make known our needs and desires, our talks with Him should never focus only on requests. We shouldn’t approach prayer as only a checklist of needs we want addressed. Instead, we strive for balanced conversation with God, in which we pause to hear Him speak as well. While exploring the blessing of prayer, our youngsters are learning to include praising and thanking God too, as we also search our hearts and confess our shortcomings. A healthy, thriving prayer life is our goal as we claim our powerful theme verse: *“Call unto Me, and I will answer thee, and shew thee great and mighty things, which thou knowest not.”* (Jeremiah 33:3) We pray that the Lord is raising up faithful prayer warriors in this next generation!

‘Looking To God for Great and Mighty Things,  
Bruce, Darla, and Marshall

## ‘Twas the Night Before School ~ Alicia Searle

‘Twas the night before school, and all through the house,  
The children were a bit nervous, the littlest one as quiet as a mouse.  
The pencil boxes were set, and supplies laid out neatly with care,  
In the hopes that the teachers would be nice, understanding, and fair.

As Mom reassured them and tucked them into bed,  
Her prayers were for them to succeed and have nothing to dread.  
As each little darling drifted off to sleep,  
The weary mom trudged down the hall, trying not to weep.

Then she thought to herself, how has another year slipped by?  
And before she knew it, she began to cry.  
The decisions were prayed over, the choices we made,  
Yet, she questioned everything, not feeling so brave.

When what to her wondering eye should appear,  
But a Bible verse that said, “Fear not, I am here.”  
It was right there before her, in Isaiah 41:10,  
God showed up and brought comfort, just as He always did.

And during that night, as those sweet children fell into a deep sleep,  
God showered them in His love and placed cherished memories for them  
to keep.  
He knew their past, present, and future and was in the midst of it all.  
And to make things even better, He would pick them up if they so  
happened to fall.

So, when that dear mom and dad laid their head on their pillow that  
night,  
They gave each other an understanding nod, knowing it would all be all  
right.  
Then they, too, drifted off to sleep and felt a peace from within,  
**Knowing this school year would be all up to HIM!**



## The Stover Family ~ Peru

**Mother's and Father's Day:** It was a blessing to be able to celebrate these special days with a Mother's Day tea and a game night and dinner for the fathers. We praise the Lord for several parents of children who we pick up on the van route who were present for these times to hear the Gospel presented. These are folks who do not usually come. We pray God will use these seeds planted to produce much fruit.

**Trip to Ilo:** May 16-18 we made the 2-hour trip up the coast to Ilo to preach and teach at a Family Conference at Iglesia Bautista Peniel, where Samuel Huaman is pastor. We thank the Lord for our van, so that the whole family could travel comfortably, and also that we didn't have any mechanical issues along the way.

**Pastoral Team Training:** We were privileged to have Missionary Stanley Templeton in to teach and train the pastors and their wives of our team, along with several other pastors who traveled in to be a part. We had 10 pastoral families represented in the classes. The lessons were timely and helpful, and we were refreshed and encouraged. We pray God will continue to use us here to reach southern Peru for His honor and glory.

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 says:** "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven." Please pray for José and Lucia who have been a faithful part of the team here in Tacna during this season. On June 22, we will have José's ordination service, and on July 3, they will fly to the northern city of Cajamarca to begin a new season, serving at the Maranatha Baptist Church. Lord-willing, I will be in Cajamarca July 9-13 to see the ministry there, preach José's installation service, and also preach in a sister church.

**Family Update:** Our children have finished another school year, and this year our oldest son Josiah graduated from high school. Please be in prayer for him as he makes decisions concerning this new season of his life. Thank you to those who bless our children by sending birthday cards and gifts.

**Missions Trip Group:** Please pray as we have a missions group of 18 people coming from Trinity Baptist Church in Milton, FL, June 24-July 2. We have several projects planned at the church during their time here, including a VBS. Please pray for safety in travel and that God would use this trip in each of their lives to give them a greater burden for missions around the world.

**Praise:** We praise God that José's brother Miguel made a profession of faith. Please continue to pray for the salvation of his mother and nephew, Mirtha and Jared. Also, a teenage girl who has been coming ever since the church began 3 years ago recently make a profession of faith. We praise God for his work in their hearts!

We thank you for being partners together with us here in Peru. Your prayers and support are so vital to all that the Lord is doing in this place.

Thankful for the opportunity to serve, *Robert & Sara Stover and Family*

Macedonia World Baptist Missions ♦ P.O. Box 519, Braselton, GA 30517 ♦ 706-654-2818

♦ [www.mwbm.org](http://www.mwbm.org) Sent from: Carrollton Baptist Temple ♦ Pastor David Powell

♦ 1211 Lincoln Ave. NW, Carrollton, OH 44615 ♦ 330-627-5124

Website: [www.stovers2peru.com](http://www.stovers2peru.com) ♦ Contact: [rstover22@yahoo.com](mailto:rstover22@yahoo.com) ♦ 330-238-4944

## Corny Summer Jokes

What's gray and has four legs and a trunk? *A mouse on vacation.*

What is a frog's favorite summertime treat? *A Hopsicle*

What happens to cows who get too much sun? *Their milk evaporates.*

What do you call a Labrador Retriever at the beach in August? *A hot dog.*

Did you hear about the dog who wears a swimsuit at the beach?

*Apparently, it looks quite fetching.*

What do you call an anxious mosquito? *A jitterbug.*

What kind of sandals do frogs wear? *Open-toad sandals.*

Why do fish swim in salt water?

*Because. . . pepper water would make them sneeze.*

Do fish go on vacation? *No, because they're always in school.*

Where do sharks go on vacation? *Finland.*

What did the sand say when the tide came in? *I shore am glad to see you!*

Why do fish like to eat worms? *Because they got hooked on them.*

Why don't oysters share their pearls? *Because they're shellfish.*

What kind of music do killer whales like? *They listen to the orca-stra.*

What do you call a fish with no eyes? *A fsh.*

What did one tide pool say to the other tide pool? *Show me your mussels.*

What did the beach say to the tide when it came in? *Long time, no sea.*

What sits on the seabed and has anxiety? *A nervous wreck.*

Why don't seashells take baths? *Because they wash up on the beach.*

What did the tree say when summer finally arrived? *What a re-leaf.*

Did you hear about the ice cream truck accident? *It crashed on a rocky road.*

What happens when ice cream gets angry? *It has a meltdown.*

What does the sun drink out of? *Sunglasses.*

What AI says about corny jokes: Corny summer jokes, despite their often predictable and sometimes "groan-worthy" nature, can be a source of laughter, lightheartedness, and fun during the summer months. Their appeal lies in their simplicity, their ability to evoke nostalgia, and their capacity to bring people together, even if it's with a playful groan and a roll of the eyes. *So we might as well grin and bear it!* 😊

## The Right Perspective on Life

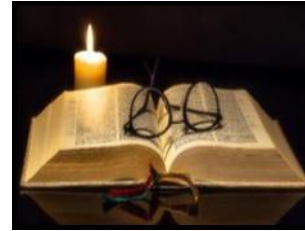


Solomon gives, in the Book of Ecclesiastes, the perspective on life of a person viewing life merely from human or natural thinking. “The thing that hath been, it is that which shall be; and that which is done is that which shall be done: and there is no new thing under the sun.” – Ecclesiastes 1:9 A person’s perspective on life is determined by their frame of reference! Solomon describes the thought process of the “man under the sun” or the person viewing life the way life is seen through eyes which are blinded spiritually. These defective eyes see life as a boring and a monotonous experience. Life is viewed only as a recurring cycle of events or a repetition of sameness.

Physical life is brief, even when one lives many years upon this earth. Physical life is, as James writes, only a vapor. The frailness of physical life should cause us to avoid both presumption and fatalism. The right perspective on life is still critical but no one is fully capable of having the right perspective on life without knowing the Author of life! Salvation through Christ’s work on the cross is the means for knowing Him. “But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name:” – John 1:12

The length and seeming boring routines in physical life do not have to undermine the joy in living! We are enabled to live our life with a right perspective of our position in Christ and purpose for living. We are enabled to understand that the repetitive nature and brevity of life only shortens our march to our final formation in Glory! We suffer while living in this “changing” world but rejoice in our “unchanging” God! That which the world views as negative, becomes a positive for the Christian who really understands that God uses the “all things” in life to accomplish His plan for His child. Those living **“under the sun”** interpret life as a cause for hopelessness and boredom but those living **“in the Son”** interpret life as a cause for hope and joy. – Chuck Peters

## *Living in the Son!*



## The Opened Scriptures

The Bible is opened and read by many but understood by a few. It is both opened and closed at the same time for many read only words, stories, and events. The Bible, unlike all other Books, is in a category reserved for only “The Bible.” “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:” – II Timothy 3:16

Jesus, after His resurrection, appeared to Disciples and opened their eyes, the Scriptures, and their understanding of the Scriptures. (Ref. Luke 24:31,32, 45) He gave them the greatest antidote against their troubled hearts over the account of His death. He took them to the Messianic Scriptures which spoke of His prophesied death and resurrection. They were a fulfillment of the Old Testament Scriptures which concerned the Person and work of Christ. “And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me.” – Luke 24:44 The Hebrew Old Testament is divided in a threefold way: The Law, The Prophets, and The Writings. This threefold division includes the entire Old Testament.

The greatest key in both the understanding and love of the Word of God is seeing the Person and work of Christ! This blessing is reserved to those who personally know the “Preeminent Person” in Scriptures. The Spirit of God indwells the believer and He puts the spotlight upon Christ. “He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew it unto you.” – John 16:14

Opened Scriptures are seen by opened eyes and cherished by opened understanding. Great peace and joy result in finding Christ in every Book and realizing that His fulfilled death and resurrection guarantees the fulfillment of all other prophesies, including His return and future reign. All Scriptures concern Him and His finished work. Blessed are those who are able see the precious Saviour on every page of Scriptures! They hold in their hands a Bible consisting of 66 Books which in perfect unity present the Preeminent Person of Jesus Christ and His redemptive work for the salvation of sinners. “Holy Bible, Book divine, Precious treasure, thou art mine” - John Burton, Sr. The Bible is far more than just another book to carry, religiously, to church on Sunday and then throw on a table to collect dust until it is picked up again to carry to church! - Chuck Peters