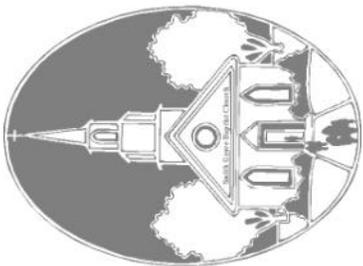


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[www.smithgrove.org](http://www.smithgrove.org)

**VOLUME 43**  
**April 2026**  
**ISSUE 505**

**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  
2026



**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
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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 . . .*

## April Calendar



- ~ **Sat., April 4, 6 pm - W-S Rescue Mission**
- ~ **Sun., April 5, 7 am ~ Easter Sunrise Service** with a message by **Pastor Chuck Peters**. Breakfast will be served after the message. **~NO EVENING SERVICE~**
- ~ **Sun., April 19 ~ BEAMS Sunday**
- ~ **Sun., April 26, 11 am - Lou Carrico with the W-S Rescue Mission, will be our guest speaker.**
- ~ **Robinwood Retirement Ctr.** ~ Every Tuesday at 6:00 pm.



**Statement of Faith:** We are an Independent Baptist Church (established in 1921) that still preaches the old time Gospel, and we believe that the King James Version of the Bible constitutes the preserved, inerrant, and inspired Word of God for the English speaking people of the earth.

# REMEMBER IN PRAYER

**SHUT-INS:** Betty Byrd Iris Farrington

## IN THE SERVICE OF THEIR COUNTRY

**PVT Adam Brittain**, Army, Texas (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)

**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)

**Gregory Turner**, National Guard, Kuwait (son of a CVS  
pharmacist in Kernersville)



# Alive #

## He is Risen

*"He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matthew 28:6.*

The stone is rolled, the night has passed,  
The morning light arrives at last.  
From shadows deep to golden ray,  
We celebrate this holy day.  
The garden breathes a breath of new,  
In every flower, every dew.  
The heavy heart finds wings to fly,  
Beneath the bright and open sky.

No longer bound by grief or fear,  
The voice of hope is ringing clear.  
He lives, He rises, love prevails,  
The promise kept that never fails.  
So let us lift our hearts in song,  
To where our spirits all belong.  
In grace reborn, in joy restored,  
We praise our risen, living Lord



## BEAMS' Report for March 2026

# of Pledges: 7; # of Contributions: 6;  
Total Contributors: 13  
Total Contributed: \$ 521.00 =  
65 Bibles in March (plus some postage)

*Many thanks to all those who gave monies to the BEAMS' ministry specifically for postage which added \$ 80.00 in March!*

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

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

## Thank You for the Bible



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 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**

Graybrier Nursing Home  
 116 Lane Dr - Room 14B  
 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

*April Anniversaries*

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



Why shouldn't you tell an Easter egg a joke? *It might crack up.*  
 Why did the Easter egg hide? *Because he was a little chicken*  
 Why won't Easter eggs go out at night? *They don't want to get beat up.*  
 What do you call a mischievous Easter egg? *A practical yolker*  
 What do you call an Easter egg from outer space?  
*Egg-stra terrestrial*

Why do Easter eggs go to school? *To get egg-ducated.*

What did the egg say when the Easter Bunny told a joke? *"You crack me up."*

What stories do Easter eggs tell their children? *Folk Yolk tales*

What did the Easter egg ask for at the hair salon? *A new dye job*

What do you call an unconventional Easter egg? *Egg-centric*

What do you call naughty Easter eggs? *Deviled eggs*



Our *Harmonious Hearts & Hands* breakfast was a great success! There was a great turnout, and the fellowship was sweet . . .

Pastor Bruce stopped by for a brief visit and word of encouragement, and then we all had a delicious continental breakfast. Our fearless leader, Jim Laramore, led our meeting afterward, and shared his thoughts on growing our choir and setting up a regular monthly practice. We will practice once each month on the first Saturday, and we will cover all the songs we will sing that month.

And best of all, it isn't too late if you would like to join in the Smith Grove music program! There are so many areas where we can serve, from singing in the choir to helping run the sound board or live-stream. Just speak to Jim and let him know where your interests lie. He would be delighted to get you started! *Everyone is welcome!*



## The Joyful Fool

On this April day, we laugh and smile, And walk the happy, sunny mile.  
The world might play a foolish trick, But grace and love come very quick!

For in the Lord, we find true delight, Turning darkness into light.  
With cheerful hearts, we follow the way, *Happy, blessed April Fool's Day!*

### What are the origins of April Fools' Day?

The story goes back to the 1500s in France when the Julian calendar (established by Julius Caesar) was replaced with the Gregorian calendar (introduced by Pope Gregory XIII and still used in most parts of the world). In the old Julian calendar, the new year began on April 1, but with the new Gregorian calendar, the new year was set to begin on January 1.

News did not always travel fast in those days so not everyone got the word that the start of the New Year changed to January 1. They kept celebrating it on April 1, and they were widely mocked as April Fools.

### GOTCHA! “The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that hearkeneth unto counsel is wise.” – Proverbs 12:15

Today is “April’s Fool’s Day” and a good time for “Fools” to show themselves! I just read where someone said, “*Why, was everyone so tired on April 1st? Because they just finished a long 31-day March.*”! – Readers Digest

Last year I was actually a “March Fool”. My wife and I were driving to Church on Sunday, March 1st and I, for whatever reason, thought it was April 1st. I said to her that today is April Fool’s Day. She told me that I was a bigger fool than ever for today was March 1<sup>st</sup>! I was only a Month ahead of the game!

There are several verses in the Bible relating to the subject of the “fool”. Every day is “April Fool’s Day” for many people, for every day many play the part of a fool. According to the above-mentioned verse, a fool cannot be counseled. They basically “know it all” and never seem to stand to be corrected about anything. Their way, as the verse says, “is right in their own eyes”.

Today it is okay to fall for an “April Fool’s” joke, for the consequences are probably no more than being made a laughing stock and, of course, a little humor goes a long way in this serious and sober world! There are, however, greater consequences for being a Bible termed fool. The fools way may seem right in their own eyes but the unsaved fools’ way leads to death and destruction. “Judgments are prepared for scorners, and stripes for the back of fools.” – Proverbs 19:29

It is one thing to be made a fool on April 1<sup>st</sup> but imagine being a lost and condemned fool forever! The best prescription for an unsaved fool is, “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.”

– Romans 10:9

Chuck Peters – 4/1/2022

## Word of Life’s Caribbean - Theological Conference

During February Dave was in Nassau, Bahamas conducting a Theological conference. We had a total 98 who attended the 3-day conference. Dr. Varnadore taught on *Dispensationalism*, Dr. Seeler taught on *Progressive Christianity* and Rev. Chesley taught the *Doctrine of the Holy Spirit*. Dave moderated the conference

After the conference, church leaders from various churches approached Dave concerning Word of Life Youth Ministry programs for local churches. The conference emphasized the importance of the youth of each church being disciplined properly in the doctrines of the Word of God.

Dave preached in one of the *seven churches* that had attended the Theological conference. His message was on the importance of the church reaching



and discipling the youth in their communities. That is the churches mandate: to raise up the next generation to know and love the **Word of God** and to show them how to study to “*rightly divide the Word of God!!*”

**Special prayer request!** Pray that each Youth Ministry that we are working with in Aruba, Curacao, St. Lucia, St. Maarten, Anguilla and Nassau will see many young people come to know Jesus Christ as Savior in 2026. Let’s pray for “**much fruit**” for His glory!

**St. Lucia ministry** ~ We are working with a team of pastors from North Carolina who will be traveling to St. Lucia in March to encourage our missionaries Noel & Penny Antoine. They will be meeting with key pastors to strategize how best to move forward with the work of the *Word of Life Caribbean Ministries!* The Team will also be setting up for a future evangelistic trip reaching young people in the public-school systems.

**PRAYER REQUESTS:** **1.** Pray for the three summer trips going to St. Lucia, Nassau, and Anguilla. **2.** Pray for Dave & Sandy as they finalize locations, confirm speakers and topics, and organize in-country food, housing and transportation for 6 Leadership Development conferences in 6 island countries. **3.** Pray for Dave and Sandy’s April 2026 trip to Curacao. We will be meeting pastors & elders of local churches that are interested in having Word of Life help them establish their youth programs. We will be building up existing churches that are engaging Word of Life in developing their youth ministries. Dave will be preaching in some local churches. **4.** Pray for Dave and some of our staff who will be scheduling trips to some of our island countries over the spring and summer to introduce Word of Life to new churches

“Reaching the Youth of the Caribbean with the message of Christ!”

Dave & Sandy Kelly

# A Word With You

By Ron Hutchcraft - First published, April 2002

Antiques and young children - that is not a good combination. It is, in fact, an invitation to disaster. Like that lovely antique teapot when my children were little. Well, you know what happened - one moment a teapot, the next moment, pieces of a teapot. But my wife quickly rallied to remedy the situation. No, she did not disown one of our children. She brought out a tube of some sort of super glue. And amazingly, she put those pieces together and recreated that old teapot - and that glue has held it together to this very day!

There are times when you and I can use a little "super glue" - because it's us that's going to pieces. And that spiritual glue is available to you right now, if you know where to get it and you know how to use it.

From the Word of God, we read about this powerful agent that can hold you together, no matter what. Hebrews 4:16 puts it this way: "Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

Now, "grace to help" us in the original Greek of the New Testament, which is translated "help us," is used only one other time in the Bible - in Acts 27:17. Paul is on a ship that is literally being blown apart by a violent storm. The Bible says they passed ropes under the ship itself to "hold it together." There's that "help" word from Hebrews 4:16 - except here it's about literally keeping the ship from coming apart in the storm.

God says that what His grace is able to do for you - to help hold you together when the storm is intense and things seem to be breaking apart. He invites us to "approach the throne of grace with boldness (confidence)." The word "confidence" means boldness and frankness. So when you start to pray, you go to your Lord boldly, talking, not in fancy "prayer-ese" language, but with straight talk. You tell Him how it really is, how you really feel, how much you need Him. The Bible says that when you do that, you can "find grace." I like the deeper meaning of the Greek word that we translate as "find" here. It means to "come upon" or to "discover." There's almost an element of surprise in it - "Wow! Look what I just found! All this grace - lots of grace ... to hold me together in this situation right now!"

When the verse says "grace to help in time of need," the original language is saying help that comes at just the right time - no, not before you really need it, not after you really need it, but right on time. So this is one power-packed invitation from the One who rules the galaxies from His "throne of grace" - to come into His throne room boldly and honestly, reaching out to put in our hands the exact resources we need for this moment, this challenge, this situation, this need. He will respond with a flood of grace - just the kind of grace you need right now - suffering grace, waiting grace, deciding grace, grieving grace, single grace, physical grace, emotional grace, or financial grace.

But the grace doesn't just come to you automatically. You have to go for the grace this moment requires! And so often we don't. We struggle and worry and

scheme, never going to the Grace Throne for the answers or resources we need. We could be rich - we live in unnecessary poverty. We need to accept this incredible invitation many times a day - and pray aggressively, not passively; boldly, not timidly; specifically, not generally. And it's all available to us because of Jesus - we come there because He died to make it possible for us to get this close to the God of the universe.

So there is never any reason you need to go to pieces. The grace glue of your God can hold you together, no matter what hits you! .....Ron Hutchcraft

**HUTCHCRAFT MINISTRIES** ~ "I had an unscheduled broken heart for Native America." After a lifetime of nationally recognized, cross-cultural youth ministry, in early 1992, Ron Hutchcraft was invited to the Navajo reservation for a series of speaking events. Ron was exposed to a youth ministry need he previously knew little about.

Through a series of events, meetings and conversations with both missionaries and many Native people, God broke Ron's heart for Native young people. He said, "After a lifetime in cross-cultural youth ministry, these are the first young people I've ever met who have no dreams."

Ron recalls, "I had an unscheduled broken heart." Ron made a commitment to return. In the summer of 1992, a ministry to reach and disciple Native American young people was born. Ron recognized the need to equip young Native Americans to be the primary messengers to their people.

The decision was made to make evangelism and discipleship of young Native Americans a significant part of the mission and focus of Hutchcraft Ministries, Inc.

Ron, his wife Karen, their sons Doug and Brad, and their daughter Lisa, all played strategic roles in these early formative years of the ministry.



## A WORD WITH YOU

For over four decades, Ron Hutchcraft's daily "A Word With You" radio broadcast has touched countless lives with the Good News of Jesus Christ. "A Word With You" remains firmly committed to effectively sharing the Good News of Jesus through radio - across the United States, and around the world.



## ON EAGLES' WINGS

On Eagles' Wings (OEW) is all about bringing the hope of Jesus Christ to Native America. It all starts with the annual "Warrior Leadership Summit" conference, where Native young people representing nearly 100 tribes learn to make a difference for Jesus Christ in their communities.

*Continued...*

## Good Friday Message

“And when they were come to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him, and the malefactors, one on the right hand, and the other on the left.” Luke 23:33

Good Friday is the Day of the Passion Week which gives credence to the crucifixion of the Lord Jesus Christ. He would be delivered for the offences of the world. His death of substitution would certify the significance of the animal blood that had stained Jewish Altars. His sacrificial death would add meaning to Abraham’s words to Isaac, “God will provide himself a lamb!” (Gen.22:8) His sacrificial death was the fulfillment of Old Testament types. His sacrificial death was the prophetic message of the coming redemptive act which, alone, would totally take care of the virus of sin passed on to humanity by Adam.

Good Friday is the day which carries us in thought to the place called Calvary. The “Cradle” associated with Christmas is now replaced with the “Cross” of Good Friday. It is interesting to note the use of the word “come” in reference to the events at Calvary. The word is found in our text, “And when they were **come** to the place, which is called Calvary, there they crucified him...” (Lk.23:33) The Gospel of Matthew uses the word “come” as well, and also with application to another aspect of truth associated with the Lord’s redemptive work. Notice Matthew’s use of the word “come.” “He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. **Come**, see the place where the Lord lay.” – Matthew 28:6. We find the word “come” used by Matthew in another verse, “**Come** unto me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” – Matthew 11:28.

When they came to Calvary, they witnessed His suffering on account of our sins. When they came to see the place where He lay, they witnessed His sentencing of death, hell, and the grave. Those who come to Him with their burden of sin witness His salvation and deliverance from sin.

Today we are reminded of the cross and His vicarious death, but Easter Sunday is coming and His empty tomb shouts a victorious resurrection. Friday’s cross leads to Sunday’s empty tomb!

*“Living, He loved me; dying, He saved me;  
Buried, He carried my sins far away;  
Rising, He justified freely forever:  
One day He’s coming-O glorious day!”*

*~ J. Wilbur Chapman*

.....Chuck Peters



## The Hands of The Carpenter

“Is not this the carpenter’s son? is not his mother called Mary? and his brethren, James, and Joses, and Simon, and Judas?” – Matthew 13:55

I was pondering this morning the narrative of this account in the life of Christ and was struck with His activity before His final three and one-half years of ministry. The title and profession that The Lord used was further indication of the humbleness of the One taking upon Himself the servant’s form and likeness with humanity. It is enriching to the heart of the saint to reflect upon the implications of the thirty or so years of this Carpenter of Nazareth. I especially was touched by the thought of the “hands” of this Carpenter. The Carpenter’s hands were the hands of God employed for a segment of earthly time working with wood!

Those same, active hands, have been at work throughout eternity. Those hands were the hands of the Creator of the universe. The hands of the Carpenter were the hands of the Creator and Framer of this world and universe. The hands of this Carpenter would soon be pierced and His work of substitution would mean those hands reaching out to the weary and laden sinners and the blessed invitation to “come”. Those pierced hands would bring closure to the doubt of Thomas for the sight of those nail prints would drive away the doubt of the doubter. The Carpenter’s hands would be hands of comfort and security for none of His can be plucked out of those powerful hands! The hands of this Carpenter would work, not with wood, but the lives of the tokens of His grace for the work of redemption will be brought to completion by this One Who is the “Greatest Finisher Carpenter” of all time!

The hands of this Carpenter have brought sight to the blind, healing to the leper’s, comfort to the weary, and love to the children who sit on the lap of Majesty with the hugs from the hands of God stretched around them.

These hands had wondrous purpose in eternity past and were associated with creation. Those hands were employed on earth and were associated with craft, comfort, and conviction. Those hands will be associated with Heaven and will eternally verify crucifixion and completion of redemption. The Carpenter’s hands hold the world in place and the Carpenter’s hands can put ruined lives back together and begin a building project destined for eternal existence. Perhaps eternity will not only allow us to bow at His feet and see His face but also kiss those precious nail pierced hands of this Carpenter who once lived in Nazareth!

Chuck Peters