Must have
First Class
Stamp

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

VOLUME 43
September 2026
ISSUE 510

PROVERBS 25:13
As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him, for he refresheth the soul of his masters . . .

Sunday School	10:00 AM
Morning Worship	11:00 AM
Children's Church	11:15 AM
Evening Worship	6:00 PM
Wednesday Service	7:00 PM
Bible Clubs	7:00 PM
Thursday Visitation	7:00 PM

~ NURSERY PROVIDED ~
2707 Sandy Ridge Road
Colfax, NC 27235

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

www.smithgrove.org

The Messenger

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Bible Clubs	6:45-8:15 PM

Streaming Live: Facebook
https://www.facebook.com/mySGBC/
YouTube
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj39_zpMzkkCXdFYy1NKndQ

PROVERBS 25:13 *As the cold of snow in the time of harvest, so is a faithful messenger to them that send him, for he refresheth the soul of his masters . . .*

Happy Fall, Y'all!

~ Sat., Sept. 5, 6 pm ~ W-S Rescue Mission
~ Wed., Sept. 9-11, 7:00 p.m. nightly (Wed.-Fri.)
PIEDMONT BAPTIST CAMP MEETING
~ Sun., Sept. 20 ~ **BEAMS Sunday**
~ Robinwood Retirement Ctr. ~ Tuesdays at 6:00 pm.

Looking Ahead: Smith Grove *Homecoming*
Sun., Oct. 11, 11:00 a.m. ~ Homecoming Message by Rev. Rick Church. A meal will be provided by the church in the Fellowship Building after the service. (Please bring desserts.) **NO EVENING SERVICE**

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)

SSgt. Josh Robertson, Marines, Naples, Italy (From Clyde Gray)
Gregory Turner, National Guard, Stateside (son of a CVS pharmacist in Kernersville)

In September of 1813, the United States got its nickname, **"Uncle Sam."** The name is linked to Samuel Wilson, a meat packer from Troy, New York, who supplied barrels of beef to the United States Army during the War of 1812. Wilson (1766-1854) stamped the barrels with "U.S." for United States, but soldiers began referring to the grub as "Uncle Sam's." The local newspaper picked up on the story and Uncle Sam eventually gained widespread acceptance as the nickname for the U.S. federal government.

In the late 1860s and 1870s, political cartoonist Thomas Nast (1840-1902) began popularizing the image of Uncle Sam. Nast continued to evolve the image, eventually giving Sam the white beard and stars-and-stripes suit that are associated with the character today. **Pictured left** - *Samuel Wilson*, Sept. 13, 1766 – July 31, 1854)

BEAMS' Report for August 2026

of Pledges: 7 ; # of Contributions: 10 ;
Total Contributors: 17
Total Contributed: $ 619.00 =
77 **Bibles in August** (plus some postage)

*Many thanks to all those who gave monies to the BEAMS' ministry specifically for postage which added **$ 185.00** in August!*
You can also get the BEAMS' report online at our website:
https://www.smithgrove.org/beams-report/

"One for The Bass!"

I was watching the news this morning and laughed at what I perceived as a humorous news story. It involved a professional golfer in Florida. He made a good drive, only to have his golf ball land and roll into a pond where a hungry "Large Mouth Bass" was looking for food. The fish ate the golfer's golf ball! This incident proved to be not only "one for the books" but also "one for the bass!" – *Chuck Peters*

Services will be streaming Live every Wednesday at 7 p.m. & Sunday at 11 a.m. & 6 p.m. on Facebook & YouTube — (You do not need a facebook account to watch the video on fb!)
https://www.facebook.com/mySGBC/
https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCj39_zpMzkkCXdFYy1NKndQ
To listen & download mp3:
Audio Archive Online ~ **https://www.smithgrove.org/audio-archive/**

The 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."

HONOUR ROLL

Smith Grove's ministry to our widows, widowers, & senior singles

"Honour widows that are widows indeed." (I 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 September and October. Please take a moment to send a card, make a telephone call, or do something extra special for our special saints.

Carol Hayden
8413 Adkins Rd
Colfax, NC 27235
336-708-9435 ~ September 01

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

Ruby Bowden
2007 Beeson Road
Oak Ridge, NC 27310
336-993-0220 ~ October 20

Iris Farrington
C/O Fair Haven Home
149 Fairhaven Dr, Rm a5b
Bostic, NC 28018
828-245-9095 ~ October 24

Norman Smith
111 Buena Vista Ave
High Point, NC 27265
336-847-2164 (Cell) ~ October 26

Kathy L. Crews
8103 Tam O'Shanter Dr
Greensboro, NC 27409
336-668-9721 ~ October 30

Jackie Chastain
1053 St. Michael's Ln
High Point, NC 27265
336-869-4697 (Home)
336-804-0560 (Cell) ~ October 31

September Anniversaries

2 Bob and Shirley Ingold
3 Bill and Jeanette Dillon
10 Brad and Deborah Houck
12 Tony and Trudy Nuckles
19 Henry & Geraldine Johnson
23 Michael & Lisa Serafini
29 Carl & Judy Fowler

THE MCKITTRICK FAMILY

Serving US Military Families in Japan

Greetings from the Yokota Air Base in Tokyo, Japan! Thank you for your prayers and financial support. We eclipsed the 12-year mark of being on the field this past June. That is a testimony to the grace of God and to the prayers of His people. We count it a tremendou privilege to be your missionaries to the US military here at Yokota. Thank you for your faithful support.

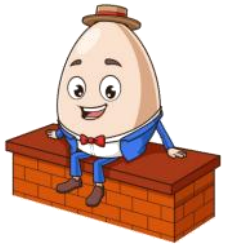
In our last prayer letter we mentioned that we would be passing out 3,000 gospel fans at the Yokota Air Base Friendship Festival in May and asked you to pray that we would see some fruit from this effort. Well, we had over a dozen people show up on that Saturday. We met at the church at 0800, had prayer, loaded up our backpacks with gospel fans and headed out to the streets. Within 35 minutes we had passed out every last fan! Not a single visitor came to church that next day as a recipient of one of those fans. But on Monday, Haruna noticed a Japanese woman knocking at the front door of the church (our house is next door to the church building). Haruna went out to talk to her and the rest is a wonderful story, which I will now relate.

This woman lived in Kyoto and her family owned a sushi restaurant. She had recently been seeking to find out who the True God was. After careful consideration of the world's religion, she decided that American Christianity was probably the true faith. Though she lived in Kyoto, she had made the trip up to Fussa to attend the Friendship Festival. While she was waiting in line to enter the festival she received a Yokota Baptist Church gospel fan. She read it and thought she should come to the church that Sunday, but she did not follow through. Then on Monday, feeling this may be her last opportunity to find the truth; she made her way to the church to see if there was any hope for her. It just so happened as she was knocking on the church door, Haruna was in our laundry room and happened to see this woman. After talking to her and hearing her story, they went inside the church and Haruna was able to lead her to the Lord Jesus Christ. We serve a gracious God!

Think about the timing of all of those events and you will arrive at the truth of 2 Peter 3:9, The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." I also can hear the words of our Lord Jesus: "All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out." There are lost souls all over this globe and you and I have the truth. May we do all we can to get the truth to those that sit in darkness. Perhaps God is calling you to the mission field?

Thank you again for all you do for us. Thank you for your prayers; they bring fruit to your account.

Christian perspective on Humpty Dumpty



Good morning, Humpty Dumpty, Sir,
How amazing, you're still here!
By legend your life was shattered,
But how cohesive you appear
Humpty turned, and said with a smile,
"The tale of horses and men, Wasn't the end!
The King on high, with love & grace, put me together again!"

Despite being Christians, some see themselves as poor Humpty, laying on the ground with the king's horses and the king's men passing by, unable to put Humpty back together. For some, these fractured pieces might be their past – ways in which they sinned or were sinned against. They think that those pieces remain forever broken at the base of the wall of their lives. They wrongly view themselves as a "victim" or they speak of their "brokenness." For others, these pieces might be their ongoing struggle with sin and their seeming lack of growth. They focus on their failures, forgetting that it is God who works in them both to will and to do (Phil. 2:13) and that he is faithful to complete the work that he begins (Phil. 1:6). Finally, these pieces might be a present paralysis based upon a future that seems fearful and uncertain to them.

Notice the emphasis on self. While certainly we are sinners who fall short of the glory of God, we are also justified by God's grace through the redemption of Christ (Rom. 3:23-24). Thus, we should never think that we are still defined by our past or present sin. Paul reminds us that despite our past, we were washed, we were sanctified, and we were justified (1Cor. 6:9-11). **Christ liveth in us. Galatians 2:20** *"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me."*

While we are mindful that we are sinners, we must also remember that we are called saints because of the work of Christ. We must remind ourselves that a broken and contrite heart is not despised by the Lord (Ps. 51:17) and that he is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit (Ps. 34:18).

We should not view ourselves as broken. We are the redeemed of the Lord, who know that it is vain to trust in horses or human kings to put us back together again. We know that the Lord doesn't delight in the strength of horse or the legs of man, but he takes pleasure in those who fear him (Psalm 147:10-11).Yes, until the Lord calls us home, we still sin, and we still suffer the effects of the fall. There are still some pieces scattered about, and at times it seems like some of the glue of our sanctification hasn't yet set. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, however, we truly are enabled more and more to die unto sin and live unto righteousness.

Psalms 147:3 *"He healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds."*

PIEDMONT BAPTIST CAMP MEETING

Wed., Sept. 9 – Fri., Sept. 11, 2026

Services each night at 7:00 p.m.
Morning Services on Thursday & Friday at 10 a.m.

Located at 8631 Bull Road, Colfax, NC

Singing each night by the camp meeting choir, plus other special music.

Labor Day in the United States of America is a federal holiday celebrated on the first Monday in September. It honors the contributions that workers have made to the development, growth, endurance, strength, security, prosperity, productivity, laws, sustainability, persistence, structure, and well-being of the country.

On September 11, 2001, 2,977 people were killed in the deadliest terrorist attacks in American history.
The moment shocked the nation. Two planes, hijacked by Islamic jihadists vowing death to all Americans, plowed into both towers at the World Trade Center in New York. Another plane was flown into the Pentagon in Washington, DC. A fourth plane, presumably headed for the White House or the U.S. Capitol, was heroically diverted by passengers and ended up crashing in an empty field in Pennsylvania. After reports of the first plane hitting the North Tower, millions watched the second plane hit the South Tower on live television.

It was a terrifying, startling, and humbling event for the country. The 9/11 attacks were the deadliest on American soil since the shock attack at Pearl Harbor 60 years before, and the sense of outrage was reminiscent of that moment. The attacks in New York occurred in the country's busiest city on a busy workday. And the staggered nature of the attacks meant that news footage captured almost everything as it happened, ensuring that millions of Americans saw the events precisely as they unfolded.

On this, the 25th Anniversary of the deadly attacks, let us pause to remember all those who needlessly lost their lives, to honor the brave first responders who selflessly entered the burning towers, and the courageous Americans who gave their lives in a lonely field in Pennsylvania.

BY HIM ALL THINGS CONSIST

..... excerpt from a message by Vance Havner (1901 - 1986)

When Paul declared in Ephesians that "Christ filleth all in all" and in Colossians that "Christ is all and in all," he was not merely giving us pious phrases to roll under our tongues; he was stating the fixed and fundamental fact of the Allness of Jesus Christ. Christ was everything to Paul. To the Corinthians he had written, "I determined not to know anything among you save Jesus Christ and him crucified." To the Galatians he wrote: "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of the Lord Jesus Christ." To the Ephesians he wrote of Him who "filleth all in all," and to the Philippians he declared, "To me to live is Christ."

Writing to the Colossians, he met an outbreak of heresy not so much by pointing out its errors, although he did that, as by presenting the Lord Jesus Christ as "the image of the invisible God," "Christ in you, the hope of glory," "in whom are hid all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge," "Christ, who is our life," "Christ, all and in all."

It has been a long time since Colossians was written, but there is the same tendency to belittle our Lord. Thousands of Christians localize Him in their thinking either to Palestine a long time ago or at the Father's right hand now. One thinks of the preacher, back from a trip to the Holy Land, who bored everybody by continually relating it. Finally, an old preacher observed, "I'd rather walk with Christ five minutes now than five years where He has been!" We need the sweep of Paul's vision to see Christ past, present, and future. No wonder so many Christians are pale, sickly, anemic: they do not know what a Christ they have. If Jesus is the Alpha and Omega, Beginning and Ending, Author and Finisher of our faith, if by Him all things consist, it follows that everything centers and converges in Him.

By Him creation consists. "For by him were all things created that are in heaven and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether they be thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things were created by him and for him" (Col. 1:16). How many Christians ever think of Christ as the One "by whom all things are created," as Colossians puts it; "by whom all things were made: as John puts it; "by whom God made the worlds," as Hebrews put it? Why did God make the universe, anyway? He made it that one day Christ might be all in all, that one day, from tiniest electron to mightiest planet, it might glorify Jesus. Scientists cannot give the reason for the universe: Christ is the reason. Creation is now enslaved in corruption, but one day it will display the glory of Christ, the bondage of sin will be broken, the Sons of God be manifested. And Christ not only created the universe and is its object but He sustains it now. The very existence of each of us, to say nothing of our salvation, depends on Him. Without Him the universe would fall apart.

By Him redemption consists. In order to conform men to the image of His Son, God gave His Son. *There is no salvation in any other.*

The Precious Word *~ Chuck Peters*

"Being born again, not of corruptible seed, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. For all flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of grass. The grass withereth, and the flower thereof falleth away: But the word of the Lord endureth for ever. And this is the word which by the gospel is preached unto you." - I Peter 1:23-25

Peter reminds us that the Word of God is not only incorruptible, but also has numerous other qualities. We can safely say that the Word of God is *precious*. This "incorruptible" Word produces life, according to the text. The very spelling of the Word "precious" can argue for the quality of the Word. The Word of God is precious because of its:

Power – It has power to produce life (I Peter 1:23), to procure cleansing (John 15:3), to prevent sinning (Psalms 119:11), and to protect the saint (Hebrews 4:12).

Reproof – It reproves, opposes, and rejects all that is unholy and vile. It upholds righteousness, purity and morals. It serves notice on Satan that he is a conquered foe. It serves notice on the unrepentant sinner that sin will find them out.

Eternality – "The grass withereth, the flower fadeth; but the Word of our God shall stand forever." (Isaiah 40:8) God's Word is indestructible in spite of persecution, ridicule, and argument. It has the claim of the longest existence of any Book.

Comfort – There is an estimated 8,819 promises found in the Word of God. The Bible is truly a Book of comfort.

Inspiration – The Bible is "God-breathed." It bears the stamp of inspiration. (Ref. II Timothy 3:16-17)

Objectivity – The Bible reveals the personality and will of God. (Ref. I Timothy 2:4) It reveals the sinfulness and depravity of man and the remedy for man's condition. (Ref. Romans 3:10,23; 5:8) It reveals man's responsibility to respond to God's offer of salvation. (Ref. John 1:12)

Unity – The Bible consists of 66 Books written in 3 languages over a 1600-year period by more than 30 authors. We still observe unity of theme and thought without any contradiction.

Sufficiency – The Bible is sufficient to serve as foundation for the spiritual life. It is sufficient to live by, feed upon, and die with.

God's Word is precious and certainly the Book of all Books! *"Though the cover is worn and the pages are torn, and though places bear traces of tears, yet more precious than gold is the Book, worn and old, that can shatter and scatter my fears."* (Anonymous)

The Shoes by Leanne Freiberg

My alarm went off – it was Sunday again;
I was tired – it was my one day to sleep in.
But the guilt I'd have felt for the rest of the day
Would have been too much, so I'd go; I'd pray.

I showered and shaved, adjusted suit and tie,
Got there and swung into a pew just in time.
Bowing my head in humble prayer
But before I closed my eyes,
I saw that the shoe of the man next to me
Was touching my own and I sighed.
With plenty of room on either side, I thought,
"Why do our soles have to touch?
It bothered me so; he was glued to my shoe,
But it didn't seem to bother him much.

Then the prayer began: "Heavenly Father," someone said –
But I thought, "Does this man with the shoes have no pride?"
They were dusty, worn, scratched end to end.
What's worse, there were holes on the side!
"Thank You for blessings," the prayer went on.
The shoe man said a quiet "amen."
I tried to focus on the prayer,
But my thoughts were on his shoes again.
Aren't we supposed to look our best
when walking through that door?
"Well, this certainly isn't it," I thought,
Glancing toward the floor.

Then the prayer ended and songs of praise began.
The shoe man was loud, sounding proud as he sang.
He lifted the rafters; his hands raised high;
The Lord surely heard his voice from the sky.

Then the offering was passed; what I threw in was steep.
The shoe man reached into his pockets so deep
And I tried to see what he pulled out to put in,
Then I heard a soft "clink," as when silver hits tin.

The sermon bored me to tears –
And no lie –
It was the same for the shoe man,
For tears fell from his eyes.
At the end of the service, as is custom here,
We must greet the visitors and show them good cheer.
But I was moved inside to want to meet this man,
So after the closing, I shook his hand.
He was old, his skin dark, his hair a mess.
I thanked him for coming, for being our guest.
He said, "My name's Charlie, glad to meet you, my friend,"
And there were tears in his eyes – but he had a wide grin.
"Let me explain," he said, wiping his eyes.
"I've been coming for months, and you're the first to say, "Hi."
I know I don't look like all the rest,
But I always try to look my best."
"I polish my shoes before my long walk,
But by the time I get here they're as dirty as chalk."
My heart fell to my knees, but I held back my tears,
He continued, "And I must apologize for sitting so near."
"But I know when I get here, I must look a sight.
And I thought . . if I touched you, our souls might unite."

I was silent for a moment knowing anything I said
would pale in comparison, so I spoke from my heart, not my head.
"Oh, you've touched me," I said. "And taught me, in part
That the best of a man is what's in his heart."
The rest, I thought, this man will never know. . .
How thankful I am that he touched my soul!