Must have
First Class
Stamp

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

VOLUME 43
November 2026
ISSUE 512

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 . . .*

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)

Veterans Day is a holiday dedicated to American veterans of all wars, and Veterans Day 2026 occurs on Wed., Nov. 11.

In November 1918 during World War I—at the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month of that year—an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, was declared between the Allied nations and Germany.

Commemorated the following year as Armistice Day in many countries, November 11th became a federal holiday in the United States in 1938. In the aftermath of World War II and the Korean War, Armistice Day became known as Veterans Day.

Specifically, in 1954, after lobbying efforts by veterans' service organizations, the 83rd U.S. Congress amended the 1938 act that had made Armistice Day a holiday, striking the word "Armistice" in favor of "Veterans." President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed the legislation on June 1, 1954. From then on, November 11 became a day to honor American veterans of all wars.

BEAMS' Report for October 2026

of Pledges: **6** ; # of Contributions: **5 ;**
Total Contributors: **11**
Total Contributed: **$ 537.00** =
67 Bibles in October (plus some postage)

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

The Bible – A Lifelong Companion ~ One of the most important roles of the Bible is to offer perspective in every season of a Christian's life. A new believer finds the message of salvation there, while a mature one keeps finding fresh depth, needed correction, and renewed comfort. Likewise, the same scriptures that guide youth also sustain old age.

That lifelong usefulness explains why Christians keep returning to the Word. Some passages meet a person in grief, others in joy, and others in seasons of waiting. Yet all of them work together to direct the believer back to the Lord who gave them. Excerpt from: thekjvstore.com

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

Virginia Nuckles
4610 Kendale Road
High Point, NC 27265
336-668-2334 ~ November 13

Jo Ann Green
3942 Cloverwood Meadow Ln
High Point, NC 27265
336-454-0351 (Home)
336-802-6172 (Cell) ~ December 17

Nancy Kelley
118 Applegate Rd.
Kernersville, NC 27284
336-830-4852 (Cell) ~ December 23

November Anniversaries

5 Mark & Elaine Lowe
6 Eric & Angela Sexton
8 Jay & Wanda Stafford

~ A ten-year old, under the tutelage of her grandmother, was becoming quite knowledgeable about the Bible. Then, one day, she floored her grandmother by asking, "Which virgin was the mother of Jesus? The virgin named Mary or the King James virgin?"
~ And one particular four-year-old prayed, "And forgive us our trash baskets as we forgive those who put trash in our baskets."

~ Shhhh…. Don't tell your secrets in the garden because potatoes have eyes, cornstalks have ears, and beanstalk.

WS Rescue Mission

On Thanksgiving Day, our dining room is full. So is the kitchen. Volunteers, staff, and, of course, men in our program all sit down for a meal. Turkeys get carved. We don't skimp on pie. This is "family" for men in recovery. They will be thinking of their loved ones, no doubt - people they're reconciling with, miss, or hope to sit at a table with next year.

Thanksgiving at the Rescue Mission is not a replacement. It's a reminder. A reminder that this is not the end of the road, that men in our care are worth celebrating, and that God is good.

Yes, your generosity will provide meals on Thanksgiving Day. But that's just one day. A meal lasts only minutes. Your impact lasts for eternity.

Thank you for meeting men in the middle of their recovery journey. Your partnership provides steady care that helps them rebuild their lives!

From the Executive Director ~

A testimony to take home:
I keep coming back to Jesus' words in Mark 5 to the demon-possessed man. He says: "Go home to your family and tell them the great things the Lord has done for you ... "

This is what recovery is meant to look like. Not just getting clean - going back and telling the redemption story.

This Thanksgiving, men sit at our table instead of their family's. We'll eat together. We'll laugh. Open up. Men will give gratitude for what God has brought them through and build each other up in faith for what He has yet to do.

This is the power of your generosity. It gives men a testimony to take home one day. It equips them for a life that never has to return to addiction.

As you head into the holidays, take a moment to remember your history with God, what He's done for you. Then tell someone about it. That's what men at our Thanksgiving table will do. It costs nothing, but don't underestimate its power.

Thank you. What a privilege to be part of this work together.

Jeff Beale, Executive Director

(Every $3.99 you give will provide not just a meal, but the tools a man needs to take steps in recovery!)

"Giving Thanks Always For All Things…"

Ephesians 5:20

Thanksgiving is not confined to a day but rather should be the daily exercise of the Christian. The verse says, "Always." God is always blessing us and those blessings are apparent regardless of the straits and stresses of life. Paul happened to be a prisoner when he wrote these words! *"He who looks only on his trials will soon find his mind soured and complaining; he who endeavors to find how many occasions for gratitude he has, will soon find the burden of his sorrows alleviated, and his mind tranquil and calm."* (Barnes 107)

The word "gratitude" comes from the same root word for "grace." We have all received abundant grace. We should show abundant gratitude. "Think" and "thank" are two words coming from the same root word. We would be more thankful if we would be more thoughtful. We need to ponder often the mercies of God. We should continually give thanks for His sufficient grace.

I recently preached on the subject of the sufficient grace of God and penned the following:

"Once I was A Sinner, lost and Undone;
Now I am Adopted, a Child, and a Son.
Once I Was Condemned and A Servant to Sin;
Now I Am Redeemed and Accepted In Him.
Once It Was Death, Turmoil and Strife;
Now It Is Joy, Peace and Life.
The Difference Was Made When His Grace Set Me Free;
That Grace Still Abounds and Is Sufficient for Me."

-Chuck Peters

Our Prayer

Heavenly Father, on Thanksgiving Day
We bow our hearts to You and pray.
We give You thanks for all You've done
Especially for the gift of Jesus, Your Son.
For beauty in nature, Your glory we see
For joy and health, friends and family,
For daily provision, Your mercy and care
These are the blessings You graciously share.
So today we offer this response of praise
With a promise to follow You all of our days.
- Mary Fairchild

The Blessings of Life

The deepest joys in life are in overlooked blessings which reflect the favor of God, unique, to those created in His image and saved by His grace. The ability to maintain joy in spite of difficult circumstances is a blessing. The ability to be happy in spite of poverty is a blessing. The ability to enjoy a piece of fruit as simple as an apple and attribute its flavor matching our taste buds with the awareness that the Creator designed it that way. The blessing of finding an impulse to love the Lord in the midst of pain and duress. The blessing of knowing that we are blessed. The blessing of the ability to laugh even when circumstances are not laughable. The blessing of empathy towards others who hurt and the ability to weep with those who weep. The blessing of nearing the homestretch of life's race with the realization that God's goodness, forgiveness, and abounding love overreach our sins, failures, and shortcomings. The blessing of recognizing the preciousness of life with the tendency to do all we can to live, for life itself, is a blessing from God. The blessing of being able to cope with fear and understand that God designed us physically and emotionally in a way which adjusts to this world's hostile environment.

Above all, the blessing of looking up into the star-studded sky at night with the ability to see beyond the reaches of our strongest telescope. The blessing of not only understanding Him as Creator but also knowing Him as Saviour! We not only can look up but we also can see that which is not seen by mere human eyes. We, who were joined to God in the relationship of redemption, became a new creation in Christ Jesus with a panting after God and blessed with the ability to enjoy best, only that which relates to God and what He loves. We can look up into the heavens and say to ourselves, "There is my citizenship, there is my future home, there is my place of ultimate health, safety, and contentment for there is the One who took me in as a stranger, loved me as His child, and invested in me the riches of His favor and attention." Yes, the greatest blessing of life is to know the Blesser for then we are able to see our blessings, including those overlooked by those depending only on human eyes and human emotions. We are most richly blessed!

Chuck Peters – 6/21/2022

<u>Thought-provoking Newspaper Headlines From Around the World</u>:

1. Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash
2. Experts says police begin campaign to run down jaywalkers
3. Safety experts say that school bus passengers should be belted
4. Drunk gets nine months in violin case
5. Survivor of Siamese twins joins parents
6. Miners refuse to work after death
7. Juvenile Court to try shooting defendant
8. Two Soviet ships collide, one dies
9. Red tape holds up new bridge
10. Kids make nutritious snacks
11. Man minus ear waives hearing

Who delivers the best Thanksgiving sides? *Yam-azon.*
What do you call a smart-alecky butterball? *A fresh turkey.*
What do you call a silly male turkey's behavior? *Tomfoolery.*
In what state did the pilgrims arrive? *Exhaustion.*
Where did the pilgrims learn to play music?
The School of Plymouth Rock.
What do you call an attractive pilgrim? *A Puri-ten.*
What do you get when you cross burrowing insects with pilgrims? *Ant-cestors.*
What do you call pilgrims who like to boogie? *Dancestors.*
What did the turkey say to the computer? *Google, google, google!*
What's the best way to stuff a turkey? *Serve him lots of pizza and ice cream!*
Why did the mashed potatoes cross the road? *To get to the other sides.*
Why shouldn't you look at the turkey dressing? *Because it will make him blush.*
What type of key has legs and can't open doors? *A turkey.*
Why did the turkey need help walking? *He gobbled till he wobbled.*
What do you always get at the end of Thanksgiving? *The letter "g."*
Why did the turkey get sent to the principal's office? *He used fowl language.*
Where do chemistry students sit on Thanksgiving? *At the periodic table.*
Why was everyone fighting over the corn? *Because it was a-maize-ing!*
Why did the turkey cross the road? *It was the chicken's day off!*
What sound does a turkey's phone make? *"Wing, wing!"*

November 13 is World Kindness Day - Christians shouldn't need such a day, as our mandate is clear . . . **Ephesians 4:32** And be ye kind one to another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, even as God for Christ's sake hath forgiven you. **Luke 6:35** But love ye your enemies, and do good, and lend, hoping for nothing again; and your reward shall be great, and ye shall be the children of the Highest: for he is kind unto the unthankful and to the evil. **Proverbs 11:17** The merciful man doeth good to his own soul: but he that is cruel troubleth his own flesh. **Colossians 3:12** Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering; **Proverbs 31:26** She openeth her mouth with wisdom; and in her tongue is the law of kindness. **1 Corinthians 13:4-7** Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up, **Proverbs 19:17** He that hath pity upon the poor lendeth unto the LORD; and that which he hath given will he pay him again. **Galatians 6:10** As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith. **1 Peter 3:9** Not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. **1 John 3:18** My little children, let us not love in word, neither in tongue; but in deed and in truth. Philippians 2:1-2 If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies, 2 Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

A Moment of Thanks By David Jeremiah *(An Excerpt)*

In the race of life, we must pray with thanksgiving. We should praise and thank Him before revving up our engines each morning. We should pause for prayer during pit stops throughout the day. And how wonderful to fall asleep at night by counting our blessings.

Life is hard, and every day is challenging. You may be wondering just now if you can go on. Perhaps another person is vexing you. Perhaps you've been maligned or criticized. You're discouraged with unanswered prayer. Maybe you're feeling like Elijah under the broom tree, wanting to die. Try praying with thanksgiving. A thankful attitude is the cure for many emotional ailments.

Billy Sunday, the famous baseball player, became a world-renowned evangelist; and his wife, Helen, known affectionately as "Ma" Sunday, was his partner in ministry. On November 19, 1935, Billy suffered a heart attack and died suddenly in her arms. Ma Sunday was devastated; and in the days that followed, she felt herself spiraling into depression.

Sometime later, a group of Christians in Buffalo asked her to speak at a memorial service for Billy. At first, Ma didn't think she could do it; but an idea came to her. She entitled her talk, "Things I'm Thankful For." She developed a long list of thanksgiving items. Rising to speak, she said: "Folks, it's surprising how many things God can reveal to you to be thankful for, if you really want to know and ask Him to help you. I had no idea there were so many! But when I prayed and asked God to help me write them down, they came into my mind one after the other—and the very first one was: If Billy had to go, oh, how thankful I was to God Almighty that He called him away in an instant . . . . He just cried out to me, 'I'm getting dizzy, Ma!' and he was gone! How wonderful to be here one second, and up in heaven the next second! Never knowing any real pain or any real suffering of that type—I think God was so good to take Billy that way, and I thank Him for it."

She went on to list a number of items that had come to her mind as objects of praise and thanksgiving, and it lifted her depression and released her for a life of continued usefulness and service.

Thanksgiving is also the opposite of discontent. It's easy for us to become disgruntled with various factors in our lives; but the other day, I read something I'd like to pass on to you. A man wrote that he was thankful:
-For the clothes that fit a little too snug because it means I have enough to eat. -For all the complaining I hear about the government because it means that I have freedom of speech. -For the alarm that goes off in the early morning hours because it means that I am alive. -For the teenager who is not doing dishes but is watching TV because that means he is at home and not on the streets. -For the taxes that I pay because it means that I'm employed.
-For the lawn that needs mowing, windows that need cleaning, and gutters that need fixing because it means I have a home. -For weariness at the end of the day because it means I have been capable of working hard. -For the parking spot I find at the far end of the parking lot because it means I am capable of walking and that I have been blessed with transportation.

Come As You Are

I shook my head in disbelief. This couldn't be the right place. After all, I couldn't possibly be welcome here. I had been given an invitation several times, by several different people, and had finally decided to see what this place was all about. But, this just couldn't be the right place.

Quickly, I glanced down at the invitation that I clutched in my hand. I scanned past the words, "Come as you are. No jacket required," and found the location. Yes, I was at the right place. I peered through the window again and saw a room of people whose faces seemed to glow with joy. All were neatly dressed, adorned in fine garments and appeared strangely clean as they dined at this exquisite restaurant. Ashamed, I looked down at my own tattered and torn clothing, covered in stains. I was dirty – in fact – filthy. A foul smell seemed to consume me and I couldn't shake the grime that clung to my body. As I turned around to leave, the words from the invitation seemed to leap out at me, "Come as you are. No jacket required." I decided to give it a shot.

Mustering up every bit of courage I could find, I opened the door to this restaurant and walked up to a man standing behind a podium. "Your name, sir?" he asked me with a smile. "Daniel F. Renken," I mumbled without looking up. I thrust my hands deep into my pockets, hoping to conceal their stains. He didn't seem to notice the filth that I was covered in and he continued, "Very good, sir. A table is reserved in your name. Would you like to be seated?" I couldn't believe what I heard! A grin broke out on my face and I said, "Yes, of course!" He led me to a table and, sure enough, there was a placard with my name written on it in a deep, dark red. As I browsed over a menu, I saw many delightful items listed. There were things like, "peace," "joy," "blessings," confidence," "assurance," "hope," "love," "faith," and "mercy." I realized that this was no ordinary restaurant! I flipped the menu back to the front in order to see where I was. "God's Grace," was the name of this place! The man returned and said, "I recommend the 'Special of the Day.' With it, you are entitled to heaping portions of everything on this menu. "You've got to be kidding!" I thought to myself. "You mean, I can have ALL of this! What is the 'Special of the Day,'" I asked with excitement ringing in my voice. "Salvation," was his reply. "I'll take it," I practically cried out.

Then, as quickly as I made that statement, the joy left my body. A sick, painful ache jerked through my stomach and tears filled my eyes. Between my sobs I said, "Mister, look at me. I'm dirty and nasty. I'm unclean and unworthy of such things. I'd love to have all of this, but I just can't afford it." Undaunted, the man smiled again. "Sir, your check has already been taken care of by that Gentleman over there," he said pointing to the front of the room. "His name is Jesus." Turning, I saw a man whose very presence seemed to light the room. He was almost too much to look at. I found myself walking towards Him and in shaking voice I whispered, "Sir, I'll wash the dishes or sweep the floors or take out the trash. I'll do anything I can do to repay you for all of this." He opened His arms and said with a smile, "Son, all of this is yours if you just come unto Me. Ask Me to clean you up and I will. Ask Me to take away the stains and it is done. Ask Me to allow you to feast at My table and you will eat. Remember, the table is reserved in your name. All you must do is accept this gift that I offer you." Astonished, I fell at His feet and said, "Please, Jesus. Please clean up my life. Please change me and seat me at Your table and give me this new life." Immediately, I heard the words, "It is finished." I looked down and white robes adorned my squeaky clean body. Something strange and wonderful had happened. I felt new, like a weight had been lifted, and I found myself seated at His table." The 'Special of the Day' has been served," the Lord said to me. "Salvation is yours."

We sat and talked for a great while and I so enjoyed the time that I spent with Him. He told me, me of all people, that He would like me to come back as often as I liked for another helping from God's Grace. He made it clear that He wanted me to spend as much time with Him as possible. As it drew near time for me to go back outside into the "real world," He whispered to me softly, "And Daniel, I am with you always." And then, He said something to me that I will never forget. He said, "My child, do you see these empty tables throughout this room?" "Yes, Lord, I see them. What do they mean?" I replied. "These are reserved tables, but the individuals whose names are on each placards have not accepted their invitations to dine. Would you be so kind as to hand out these invitations to those who have not joined us yet?" Jesus asked. "Of course," I said with excitement as I picked up the invitations. "Go ye therefore into all nations," He said as I turned to leave.

I walked into God's Grace dirty and hungry. Stained in sin. My righteousness as filthy rags. And Jesus cleaned me up. I walked out a brand new man... robed in white, in His righteousness. And so, I'll keep my promise to my Lord. I'll go. I'll spread the Word. I'll share the gospel; I'll hand out the invitations. And I'll start with you. Have you been to God's Grace? There's a table reserved in your name, and here's your invitation... "Come as you are. No jacket required."