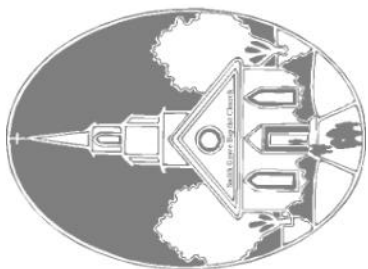


Must have  
First Class  
Stamp



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

**VOLUME 42**  
**February 2025**  
**ISSUE 491**

**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*



*February*  
2025



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2707 Sandy Ridge Road ~ Colfax, NC 27235  
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**Rev. Bruce Freeman, Pastor**  
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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 . . .*



*John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave his only begotten son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life."*

**Sat., Feb. 1, 6 pm - W-S Rescue Mission**

**Feb. 16 ~ BEAMS Sunday**

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

**Statement of Faith:**

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

*The **Be Strong Youth** article this month reminds us of a sobering truth . . . Life is precious, yet our time is limited.*

“Time is passing. Time is precious. Time is priceless. Once gone, it is gone forever. It cannot be re-lived. Genesis 25:8 shares that Abraham died full of years. *Don't just die full of years, but live years full of life!* Count the days and make the days count. Don't regret wasted, unused yesterdays or never-to-come tomorrows. Don't regret but rejoice in each day (Psalm 118:24). An inheritance is what you leave *to* people, a legacy is what you leave *in* people. Live so you will not be ashamed of yesterday or afraid of tomorrow. Loving moments make lasting memories. You can't live your life over, SO LIVE IT NOW!” – *Excerpt from Dr. Ted Camp, Silent Word Ministries, Trenton, GA (Jan. 2 CTG)*

“**Only one life, 'twill soon be past; only what's done for Christ will last,**” is attributed to C.T. Studd, a British missionary to China. *The only things that will truly matter in the end are the actions taken in service of Christ.*

2 Corinthians 4:18 *While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.*

---

## 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** (Ft. Bragg, NC) } 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 January 2025

# of Pledges: 8; # of Contributions: 4;  
Total Contributors: 12  
Total Contributed: \$ 415.00 =  
51 Bibles in January (plus some postage)

*Many thanks to all those who gave monies to the BEAMS' ministry specifically for postage which added \$ 60.00 in January!*

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

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

*We believe that the Bible is the authoritative Word of God.* It contains all that people in any age need to know for their salvation. The Bible is God's Word, and we believe, that by the power of the Holy Spirit, God speaks to us through this book.

**2 Timothy 3:16** - *All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness:*

**Matthew 24:35** - *Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away.*

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 February (none in March). Please take a moment to send a card, make a telephone call, or do something extra special for our special saints.

**Jean Rumsey**  
 8730 Bame Road  
 Colfax, NC 27235  
 336-668-2080 ~ February 01



*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)*

### *February Anniversaries*

8 Gary & Denice Slate  
 14 Steve & Cheryl Holt



- 1) Over 8 billion candy hearts are produced for Valentine's Day every year! Don't worry if you still have last year's box — they have a shelf life of five years.
- 2) Nearly 250 million roses are grown in preparation for Valentine's Day each year.
- 3) Americans spent nearly \$26 billion on Valentine's Day gifts in 2023. an average of approximately \$193 per person for Valentine's Day.
- 4) According to Hallmark, a whopping 145 million Valentine's Day cards are exchanged every February 14!
- 5) Today, more than 36 million heart-shaped boxes of chocolates are sold each year. That's 58 million pounds of chocolate!
- 6) The oldest record of a valentine being sent, according to History.com, was a poem written by a French medieval duke named Charles to his wife in 1415.
- 7) Love birds are actual birds. While the term "lovebirds" has become a popular figure of speech, it's also the common name for Agapornis birds. This bird is a type of parrot that is native to the continent of Africa. They typically travel in pairs, which is why many couples are referred to as lovebirds.

## JEWISH END-TIME MINISTRIES TOM JERAN

P.O. Box 300 Graysville, GA 30726  
 423-602-8600  
 shalom@jem-missions.com



It is with a grateful heart I want to say thank you for your continuous prayer and financial support through this past year. In spite of Cuba's last hurricane, Rafael, that completely destroyed the church building in San Juan, the worship services continue under the makeshift tarpaulin roof. Having power in Cuba continues to be a struggle as the power suddenly goes off for hours at a time.

Our latest mission outreach was truly blessed. Our mission team consisted of 122 missionaries that traveled from different parts of Cuba to join us. We continued our ministry work visiting people from house to house. We had the rare opportunity to speak to three Jehovah's Witnesses, which were very reluctant to hear God's message. Nevertheless, I continued sharing the Gospel and two of them accepted Christ.

In one of our evening services, a 12 year old boy raised his hand and asked what happens after we die. I asked him if he knew what sin is and if he believed he was a sinner. I asked if he would like to ask Jesus to forgive him and he said yes.

In January, I will be going to the Ukraine to preach to the soldiers and refugees, as well as provide humanitarian aid. Numerous mission trips are planned for Cuba. We ask that you pray for these upcoming trips.

**Shalom, in His Great Name, Thomas Jeran**

**Concerning The Nation Of Israel** ~ The physical descendants of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob with whom Jehovah God made an unconditional, national Covenant (Gen 12:15-18). They are the vessel which God chose to manifest Himself as a literal, perfect, sinless man to offer His own life for the redemption for the sin of mankind (Gen 3:16; 22). The Covenants God made to Israel will be fulfilled literally to Israel, and unless otherwise indicated, should be applied specifically to them. God has determined a specific, prophetic portion of time in which to accomplish His plan for His covenant people, and while they did reject His prophesied coming, and are currently "blinded in part", so as to take out of the Gentiles a "People for His Name" (Rom 11:25; Acts 15:13-17), after which He will regather for the last time and finish His work and redemption of His people. This will fulfill the "New Covenant" writings of the prophets (Ezek 11:19; 36:26; Jer 31:30-32). While the Church (the Body of Christ), are partakers of the blessings of the root (Jn 15:1-6), They do not replace Israel. We believe that "Covenant Theology" is in error, the Church has not replaced Israel, nor is it itself "spiritual Israel". God's covenant with the Nation of Israel thru Abraham is eternal and unconditional.

(Excerpt from <https://www.jem-missions.com/statement-of-faith>)





## Be Strong ~ Youth

With great anticipation, our younger Bible students are quickly moving down the last stretch of our Timeline. After years of looking back on the past, through the events of the Old and New Testaments, we are now seeing future events unfold before us! Having just left Paul,

Peter, and all the other early church heroes, our kids were a

little surprised that we are still living in the same “Church Age” 2000 years later. Isn’t it amazing that the early believers watched for Jesus to return for them in the clouds, the same way we do? In his day, Paul gave the church of Thessalonica a peek at the expected rapture of the saints to come: “For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven... and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up... to meet the Lord in the air.” (I Thess. 4:16-17) We looked at the sounds associated with this great event... the Lord’s shout, the voice of an angel, and the sound of a trumpet. And we discovered that God’s children will stand before the throne of Jesus, to receive rewards for the ways we served Him in this life. The children marveled that we will lay these treasures at His throne, in His honor. They agreed that it is only fitting... if not for Jesus and His sacrifice, we wouldn’t even have the blessing of spending eternity with Him. And how could we have the boldness to serve God here on earth, if the Holy Spirit didn’t empower and encourage us in our service? Indeed, our beloved Savior is worthy of all our praise and glory!

This glimpse into our eternal future gives our youngsters hope and joy, knowing that Jesus will return for us, as promised. But this destiny should help drive us rather than distract us. We must live each day realizing that our time is short. Sometimes, we struggle teaching children about death or end times, as we never want to frighten or cause an anxious urgency in their young hearts. So, we appreciated the approach our lesson guide used to introduce these delicate future events. Each student was given a paper crown cut-out to color, design, and decorate to their hearts content. “You only have a short time though”, they were told. “At any moment, I’ll call ‘time’ and you’ll have to lay down your markers.” Harkened straight from those school days of dreaded pop quizzes and timed multiplication tables, there was that heavy air of anxiety and uncertainty as they frantically tried to use their “crown time” wisely, not knowing exactly how long they had to work. When I called, “Time!”, there were the expected frustrated sighs and long faces. We talked about the way the abrupt end made them feel, and if they wished they could’ve worked faster. The takeaway was “You didn’t know your time limit, but I did.” Likewise, Jesus lovingly holds all our days, and He has given us the precious opportunity to earn a crown as we serve Him in this life — “We don’t know our time limit, but He does.” Rather than scare us, paralyze us, or stop us in our tracks, may this realization inspire us to live each day as if it’s our last chance to serve Him with all our hearts, **while we still have time**. We so appreciate your prayers for our children as we try to gently instill an eternal mindset in their young lives.

Grateful that He Holds All Our Days,

*Bruce, Darla, and Marshall*

## What Love He Gave

Oh what love my Savior gave  
Oh what He did for me  
Oh what a sacrifice He made  
When He died on Calvary’s tree

How could someone love me so  
To do this mighty deed  
To suffer such an agony –  
The nails in His hands and feet

The stripes they laid upon His back  
The crown of thorns upon His head  
They spit on Him and mocked Him  
As He knelt there and bled.

There’s nothing that I could ever do  
To deserve this kind of love  
But yet He gave this gift to me  
To show His Father’s love.

One day I’ll meet Him face to face  
When He comes to take us home  
I want to kiss His hands and feet  
And thank Him for His love.

©copyright 2001 Ruth Johnson



## The Perfect Church . . .

I think that I shall never see  
A Church that’s all it ought to be;  
A Church that has no empty pews,  
Whose Pastor never has the blues;

A Church whose Deacons always  
“Deac”

And none is proud but all are meek;  
Where gossips never peddle lies  
Or make complaints or criticize;

Where all are always sweet and kind  
And all to other’s faults are blind.  
Such perfect churches there may be,  
But none of them are known to me.

But still we’ll work, and pray and plan  
To make our Church the best we can!

### The Perfect Church . . .

If we could find the perfect church  
Without one fault or smear  
For goodness sake, let’s not join that church  
We’d spoil the atmosphere.

But since no perfect church exists  
Where people never sin,  
Let’s cease looking for that church  
And love the one we’re in!



**Hebrews 10:24-25** - And let us consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works: **Colossians 3:16** - Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. **Romans 12:5** - So we, being many, are one body in Christ, and every one members one of another.

## Presidents' Day - February 17, 2025

Is this Holiday Called Presidents' Day or Washington's Birthday? Although the holiday is most often called "Presidents' Day," the observed federal holiday is officially called "Washington's Birthday."

Neither Congress nor the president has ever stipulated that the name of the holiday observed as Washington's Birthday be changed to Presidents' Day. In a sense, calling the holiday Presidents' Day helps us reflect on not just the first president but also our nation's founding, its values, and what Washington calls in his Farewell Address the "beloved Constitution and union, as received from the Founders." Also, Abraham Lincoln's birthday is February 12, so by calling the holiday "Presidents' Day," we can also include another remarkable president in our celebrations.

### George Washington (1732-1799)

On April 30, 1789, George Washington, standing on the balcony of Federal Hall on Wall Street in New York, took his oath of office as the first President of the United States. "As the first of every thing, in our situation will serve to establish a Precedent," he wrote James Madison, "it is devoutly wished on my part, that these precedents may be fixed on true principles."

What were Washington's last words? Answer: "Tis well"

The last conversation George Washington had was with his secretary, Tobias Lear, concerning his burial arrangements. "Have me decently buried; and do not let my body be put into the vault in less than three days after I am dead." Fears of being buried too soon were common in the 18th century. According to his wishes, Washington was not buried for three days. During that time his body lay in a mahogany casket in the New Room. On December 18, 1799 a solemn funeral was held at Mount Vernon.. Washington is the only president to have a state named for him, and is the only president not to live in the White House.

### Abraham Lincoln (February 12, 1809 – April 15, 1865)

At 6 foot, 4 inches, Abraham Lincoln was the tallest president. ~ Lincoln was the first president to be born outside of the original thirteen colonies. ~ Lincoln was the first president to be photographed at his inauguration. John Wilkes Booth (his assassin) can be seen standing close to Lincoln in the picture.. ~ There are no direct descendents of Abraham Lincoln even though he had 4 sons. ~ During the Civil War, telegraph wires were strung to follow the action on the battlefield. But there was no telegraph office in the White House, so Lincoln went across the street to the War Department to get the news. ~ Lincoln was the only president to receive a patent, for a device for lifting boats over shoals. ~ Lincoln's son, Robert, who was in Washington when his father was killed, was also on the scene when President Garfield was shot in 1881, and when President McKinley was assassinated in 1901. ~ Lincoln and his wife held séances in the White House. They had a great interest in psychic phenomena. ~ Lincoln was the first president to wear a beard.



"Do you have a date for Valentine's Day?"

"Yes, it's February 14."

"What did the tortoise say on Valentine's Day?" "I turt-ally love you."

"How did the squirrel get his valentine's attention?" "He acted like a nut."

"How do you keep a jewelry store safe on Valentine's Day?" "You lock it."

"What do you call sweets that can keep a beat?" "Candy rappers."

"What do you call a romance that starts at the aquarium?" "Guppy love."

"Why should you date a goalie?" "He's a keeper."

"What did the painter tell his girlfriend?" "I love you with all my art."

"What do you call two birds in love?" "Tweetharts!"

"What did the scientist say to their valentine?"

"I think of you periodically."

"I thought I won the argument with my wife as to how to arrange the furniture. But when I got home the tables were turned."

"I once fell in love with someone who only knew 4 vowels. They didn't know I existed."

"What did the calculator say to the pencil?" "You can count on me."

"How did the telephone propose to his girlfriend?" "He gave her a ring!"

"What did one oar tell the other oar?" "This is so row-mantic!"

"What did the closet say to the light bulb?" "You light up my world."

"What do you call a Valentine's Day gift that didn't arrive on time?" "Choco-late."

"What did one bee say to the other?" "I love bee-ing with you, honey!"

"What did one volcano say to the other?" "I lava you."

"What did one blueberry say to the other on Valentine's Day?" "I love you berry much."

"What did the cucumber say to the pickle?" "You mean a great dill to me."

"What did one cat say to the other cat on Valentine's Day?" "You're purr-fect for me."

"What did one sheep say to the other on February 14?" "I love ewe."

"How much candy do you hope to get this Valentine's Day?"

"A choco-LOT!"

"What did one flame say to another on Valentine's Day?" "We're a perfect match."



# “God’s Valentine Gift”

John 3:16

For God so loVed the world,  
 That He gAve  
 His onLy  
 BegottEn  
 SoN  
 ThaT whosoever  
 Believeth Jn Him  
 Should Not perish  
 But have Everlasting life

“For God..... *The Greatest Lover*  
 so loved..... *The Greatest Degree*  
 the world,..... *The Greatest Company*  
 that he gave..... *The Greatest Act*  
 his only begotten Son,..... *The Greatest Gift*  
 that whosoever ..... *The Greatest Invitation*  
 believeth ..... *The Greatest Simplicity*  
 in him ..... *The Greatest Attraction*  
 should not perish,..... *The Greatest Deliverance*  
 but ..... *The Greatest Difference*  
 have ..... *The Greatest Certainty*  
 everlasting life.” ..... *The Greatest Possession*

God is Love

# “I Know My Father Loves Me”

I know my Father loves me though I stumble and I fall  
 My foolish heart is darkened and I fail to heed His call.  
 I find it hard to trust Him when my eyes are drawn from Him  
 My vision then is clouded by a world so full of sin.

I know my Father loves me for He says so in His Word  
 That truth remains a certain fact though sometimes things are blurred.  
 My feeble mind may fail me and my body may be frail  
 I still can know He cares for me and His love will never fail.

I know my Father loves me for a father loves His child  
 My Father loves His children though sometimes their ways are wild.  
 He gives His sheep forgiveness when they wander from the fold  
 They rest upon His shoulder and the Father brings them home.

I know my Father loves me by the workings of His grace  
 That brought me to the Saviour and has placed me in the race.  
 That race is set before me and a work He has begun  
 He has promised to perform it until the day I meet the Son.

I know my Father loves me though the world is filled with hate  
 Our world is sick and violent and unmindful of its fate.  
 My Father’s love is offered for I read He loves the world  
 He gave His Son upon a cross according to His Word.

I know my Father loves me for I felt His love today  
 His warm sweet love did cheer me as I bowed my head to pray  
 Although the things around me tempt my mind with great distress  
 He lovingly assures me upon Him my heart can rest.

Chuck Peters