

The Shiloh Spirit



Wallace Charles Smith, D.Min.
Senior Minister



The Pastor's Pen

Today is the second Sunday of Advent. Our scriptures point us to two major themes, rejoicing and repentance.

At the season of Christmas, there is so much emphasis on joy to the world that we forget there is also judgment pronounced on the world.

For the last several weeks we have discussed the development of the concept of the righteous king who would be destined to rule Israel. God intended to be the leader of the embryonic nation, but the people rebelled against God's leadership and demanded a king so they could be like other people. The kings who ascended to the throne were by and large wicked and self centered, and certainly not the godly leaders that God required. The consistent disobedience caused both Israel (the northern kingdom) and Judah (the southern kingdom) to be defeated and carried off into bondage. Israel would never recover from her destruction.

During the time of Judah's return from Babylonian and then Persian captivity, the nation was without a king. There was no one in place to guide the nation and lead them in an upright and righteous way. Malachi, the prophet in our Old Testament text, saw the vacuum in the land and the dearth of leadership coming from God's house, the Temple. He did not declare rejoicing, but repentance. The Lord would suddenly come to his Temple and He would purify it. He would come as a refining fire and burn away all the impurities.

Luke 1 contains the song of Zechariah, himself a priest, when the angels announced that he and Elisabeth, although elderly would bear a child whose name would be John, and whose mission would be to announce the coming of the Messiah. Further on, in the third chapter of Luke, we see the beginning of John's ministry. Luke sets it all in an historical framework, naming several of the big political and religious figures in power at that time. It is not lost on the reader that their power pales in comparison to the Messiah whose ministry John would foreshadow.

In the letter to the Philippians, Paul writes to the Philippian church and gives thanks for their fellowship with him in the preaching of the Gospel. The word translated fellowship is *koinonia*. It is a group of believers that models the kingdom of God through their lives. Against the serendipity of a first century church that got ministry right was the reality that in a few short years, many would die martyrs' deaths at the hands of the Romans.

In all these texts there is rejoicing at the coming of God's kingdom of righteousness, but there is also the reality that persecutions and destruction lay alongside the joy of God's doing a new thing in bringing Jesus Christ, as the truly righteous king, into the world.

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Sunday, December 6, 2009

Reading Through The Bible

December 13 – Third Sunday of Advent

Zephaniah 3:14-20; Isaiah 12:2-6; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:7-18

December 20 – Fourth Sunday of Advent

Micah 5:2-5a; Psalm 80:1-7 or Luke 1:47-55; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-55

December 27

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26; Psalm 148; Colossians 3:12-17; Luke 2:41-54

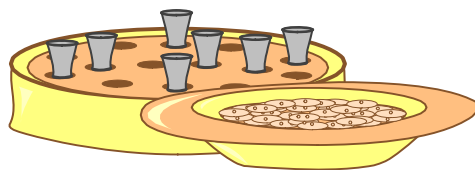
New Members Received by
Golden Rule Circle



This Week at Shiloh

Sunday, December 6, 2009

Deacons' Morning Prayer – 8:30 a.m./Deacons' Room
Unity Service
10:00 a.m.



Holy Communion

DCCF Credit Union	LL/FLC
Combined Adult Church School Classes (9:00 a.m.).....	Sanctuary
Combined Youth Sunday school Classes (9:00 a.m.)	TF/FLC
Combined Children's Sunday School Classes (9:00 a.m.).....	LL/FLC
Youth Church (10:00 a.m.)	COH/FLC
Pastor's Anniversary Committee Meeting	HHC/FLC
YACS Meeting	HHN/FLC
Nurses Unit Meeting	Library/FLC
Alpha Circle Meeting.....	216/FLC
Guest Hospitality	TF/FLC

Monday, December 7, 2009

No Activities Scheduled

Tuesday, December 8, 2009

10:00 - Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program	216/FLC
10:00 - Ministers Meeting.....	Turner Conference Room
1:00 - Time of Contemplation.....	Sanctuary
3:00 - Male Youth Advancement Program	Gym/FLC
6:30 - Senior Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
6:30 - Angel Tree Committee Meeting	208/FLC
7:15 - WCS Young Adult Ensemble Rehearsal	Choir Room

Wednesday, December 9, 2009

10:00 - Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program	216/FLC
11:45 - Mid-Week Bible Study	LL/FLC
12:00 - DC Christian Federal Credit Union	LL/FLC
1:00 - Senior Citizens Club Meeting.....	HH/FLC
3:00 - Male Youth Advancement Program	Gym/FLC
6:30 - Gospel Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary
7:00 - Al-Anon Family Matters Meeting	208/FLC

Thursday, December 10, 2009

10:00 - Deaf & Hard of Hearing Program	216/FLC
10:00 - Needle Arts & Knitting Class	HH/FLC
3:00 - Male Youth Advancement Program	Gym/FLC
6:30 - Prayer & Praise Service	Sanctuary
7:15 - Bible Institute	Sanctuary

The Lectionary Link: The Power of Study

Friday, December 11, 2009

10:00 – Child Development Center Christmas Play	HH/FLC
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Saturday, December 12, 2009

Tuning Fork will be open from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

9:00 - Debutante Committee Meeting	COH/FLC
10:00 - BZB Holiday Gift & Art Show	HH/FLC
10:00 - Village Council Meeting	208/FLC
10:00 - Boy Scout Meeting	216/FLC
11:00 - Deaconess Board Meeting	LL/FLC
11:00 - Senior and Gospel Choirs Rehearsal	Sanctuary & Choir Room
12:00 - Church School Christmas Program Rehearsal	COH/FLC

Sunday, December 13, 2009

Deacons' Morning Prayer –7:30 a.m./Deacons' Room

Dinner will be available in Heritage Hall following the 10:55 a.m. Worship Service

DCCF Credit Union	LL/FLC
Guest Hospitality	TF/FLC
Alpha Class	Gym/FLC
Caleb Class	Sanctuary/P Street Side-Rear
E.L. Harrison Class	COH/FLC
Ever Ready Class	Library/FLC
Excelsior Class	Sanctuary/Center
Genesis Class	RBC/FLC
John A. Miles Class	208/FLC
Littlejohn Class	Gym/FLC
Silent Mission Class	Gym/FLC
Waldron/Gill Class	Gym/FLC
Walker Memorial Class	216/FLC
Nursery & Pre-K Classes	LLA&B/FLC
Elementary & Upper Elementary Classes	LL/FLC
Jonathan Class	Sanctuary/Balcony
Middle School Class	RBC/FLC
Senior High Class	TF/FLC
YACS Meeting	HHN/FLC
Adah Circle Meeting	COH/FLC
Bethel Circle Meeting	Library/FLC
Calvary Circle Meeting	Gym/FLC
Faith Circle Meeting	LL/FLC
Ruth Circle Meeting	208/FLC
Naomi Circle Meeting	216/FLC
Youth Council Meeting	RBC#1/FLC
Senior Choir Messiah Concert (5:00 p.m.)	Sanctuary

Discipleship News

Welcome New Members

James Ripley Markley – Golden Deed Circle
Blanch Smith – Golden Deed Circle

Thank You Notes

It is with heartfelt gratitude that I give thanks to my Shiloh family for all the expressions of sympathy, cards, calls and prayers from Pastor Smith, the Deacon Board, Calvary Circle, Senior Citizens Club and special comfort on the occasion of visitation by Deacons Grigsby and Thomas at the passing of my sister, Marian Pinkard Tignor. Some older Shiloh members may recall that Marian was baptized at Shiloh in 1928 and spent her early years as an active member before changing affiliations. However, in recent years she was often a visitor at Shiloh's services. May God continue to bless the membership of Shiloh which brings solace to its bereaved ones.

Deacon John H. Pinkard, Jr.

Pastor Smith, Reverends Mensah and Felton, Deacons Hall, Grigsby, Roach, Cherry, Smith, Coleman, Ray and Gaines, Trustees Clark, Hardy and Richardson, Deaconesses Smart, Saunders, Beavers and Clark, and my entire Shiloh Family, a heartfelt THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU for your outpouring of support during the homegoing of my mother-in-law, Mrs. Elizabeth Beasley. Your many cards, calls, contributions to the Scholarship Fund, prayers, and presence at the homegoing services brought more comfort than you will ever know. I pray that the Lord will show you, in great measure, kindness, grace and mercy for all that you have shown me.

JoAnne Beasley

Circles Leading Prayer & Praise Service (Thursday Evenings)

December 10Excelsior & Faith Circles
December 17Fellowship & Friendly Circles
December 24CHRISTMAS EVE

Circles Receiving New Members

December 6Golden Rule Circle
December 13Grace Circle
December 20Haggai Circle
December 27Helping Hand Circle

Circles Serving Breakfast

December 6Dorcas Circle
December 13..... Eula Mae Harrison Circle
December 20Ever Ready Circle
December 27Excelsior Circle

From Our Ministries....

The Ushers' Corner November/December 2009 For Training Call Charlotte Bolton-Hicks (301/499-0628)

Sunday, December 6 – Unit #1 Serves

Thursday, December 10 – Unit #1 Serves
6:30 p.m. – Prayer & Praise, Bible Institute

Sunday, December 13 – Unit #2 Serves
Messiah Concert – ALL USHERS
5:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 17 – Unit #2 Serves
6:30 p.m. – Prayer & Praise, Bible Institute

Sunday, December 20 – Unit #4 Serves
Church School Christmas Program – 9:30 a.m.

HBCU Corner

The Carolyn M. Harris HBCU Memorial Scholarship has been established. The mission of the scholarship is to provide funds to students attending or planning to attend a HBCU and planning to major in music education. The Carolyn M. Harris HBCU Memorial Scholarship is dedicated to honor, preserve and extend the legacy of Carolyn M. Harris in building students as role models, promoting education through music, art and career development. If you would like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, please see Sharon Parker or J. Otis Harris, Jr. For more information on the scholarship or criteria please see Dr. Rochelle Hardy.

Attention Mutual Aid Members

Please meet with Annie Johnson on Sunday, December 20, 2009 from 9:30 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. in Heritage Hall. Business of importance

Church School Lessons

At-A-Glance

The Promised Birth Fulfilled

December 13 (Isaiah 7:13-17; Luke 1:30-48) **Prophets** Foreshadow **Messiah's Birth** – Isaiah foretold the birth of Immanuel (Emmanuel). The angel Gabriel brought good news to Mary and told her that she would give birth to a holy child who would be called "Son of God". The angel also told Mary that Elizabeth was with child in her old age.

December 20 – Church School Christmas Program

"The Gifts of Christmas"

9:30 a.m. – Sanctuary

December 27 (Matthew 2:7-9, 16-23) **Magi Confirm Messiah's Birth** – King Herod inquired of the Wise Men where the king of the Jews had been born. The Magi searched for Jesus by following the bright star. When they found Jesus, they concluded that He was worth seeking.

January 3, 2010 (Matthew 3:1-6, 11-17) **Proclaimed in Baptism** – The prophet Isaiah prophesied John the Baptist's ministry. Though Jesus came to him to be baptized, John felt he needed to be baptized by Jesus. However, Jesus showed humility and obedience to God when He came to John for baptism. Then a voice from heaven confirmed Jesus as the Son of God.

January 10, 2010 (Matthew 4:1-11) **Strengthened in Temptation** – Jesus' time of temptation followed the high moment of His baptism. During His temptation, He recited Scripture. The devil tried to test Jesus' power and authority as God's Son, but Jesus did not fail. All of us face temptation in life. How can we overcome it? Jesus' experience of overcoming temptation set an example for us.

Hand Dance Classes

Certified Hand Dance Instructor, Ms. Tippi Maveritt, will be teaching the art of hand dancing at Shiloh. The classes will be held in the Family Life Center, Raquetball Court, each Saturday, beginning January 9, 2010 through Saturday, February 27, 2010, from 12 Noon - 1:00 p.m. Classes are open to all, ages 13 to anyone who can still walk ☺, and will cost \$7.00 per class. Even if you have three left feet, but a sense of humor, you can learn to hand dance. Pre-registration will be held Sunday, December 13, 2009 at the Event Center following both services.

The Shiloh Senior Choir

MESSIAH

Sunday, December 13, 2009 ☩ 5:00 p.m.



Millicent Scarlett - Soprano



Sylvia V.C. Twine – Mezzo Soprano



- Tenor

Roderick Dixon



Charles E.K. Parris – Bass

The Music/Worship Ministry will have copies of DVDs of the Messiah on the December 20, 2009 – just in time for the holidays – Should anyone want to place an order you may do so by contacting Dr. Hattie Davis (202/883-3510) or obtain an order form from Dr. Davis at Shiloh on the first and second Sunday in December.

Claim The Victory Contribution

In Memory
of

Dr. Luther D. Robinson

Myrtle L. & Paul G. Istvan
\$50.00

