



NOVEMBER 2023 EDITION



Rev. Keenan L. Thomas, Pastor
Shiloh Baptist Church (New Site)

The Capstone E-Newsletter

Come Before His Presence with Thanksgiving

O come, let us sing unto the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving,
let us shout for joy unto Him with psalms.
For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods;
In whose hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are His also.
The sea is His, and He made it;
and His hands formed the dry land.
O come, let us bow down and bend the knee;
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker;
For He is our God,
and we are the people of His pasture,
and the flock of His hand.

Psalm 95



The year 2023 has been a blessed year for Shiloh New Site. The year has been filled with new news, celebrations, rethinking possibilities, building community, and more. It has been a pastoral joy to get to know you better. I am thankful we celebrated the lives of long-time faithful members and welcomed new members of all ages into our church family. Making and maturing disciples of Christ will forever be the mission of Christ's church.

Next year, we will engage in seeking God's face for a strategic vision for the future. Join me in praying for a spirit of agreement, where ideas, gifts, passions, and needs coalesce into a vision plan. Amidst these discerning changes, prioritizing worship as our common denominator is essential. Offering total praise and worship to God will bless our church in untold ways. God is not finished with our form!

Advent prepares our hearts to experience the miracle of Christmas - a savior in the form of a swaddling baby. Our God is a wonder, and God's wonders should never cease to amaze us!

God Is,
Proud Pastor



Celebrating a Legacy of Faith: 169 Years of Shiloh's Spiritual Journey

On November 12, 2023, we marked a day of profound historical and spiritual significance for our congregation. It was a day to celebrate not just one, but two pivotal chapters in our church's enduring legacy. For 169 years, we have stood as a testament to faith and community as the Shiloh Body of Christ. And for 135 of those years, we have been known as the Shiloh Baptist (New Site) Church, a name bestowed upon us through a harmonious agreement following a court order, distinguishing us from our brethren at Shiloh Baptist (Old Site) Church. Our intertwined histories are a shared narrative of resilience and unity, even as our paths became distinct.

Our 169th Church Anniversary was themed "We've come this far by faith," drawing from the powerful imagery of Jeremiah 17:8, which likens our congregation to trees planted by the water, deeply rooted and ever fruitful, unshaken by the heat or drought.

The Virginia State University concert choir, under the passionate leadership of Dr. Patrick McCoy, initiated our service with uplifting Praise & Worship. The atmosphere was further sanctified by Sister Terrelyn Gillespie, who led us in worship, Sister Felicia Minichini, who shared the scripture, and Sister Kelly Cohen, who warmly welcomed all.

Amid the service, we revisited the historical significance of our church's location at Princess Anne & Wolfe Street—a cornerstone that has been a wellspring of blessings across generations. For 169 years as a Shiloh congregation and 135 years as Shiloh Baptist (New Site), our journey has been one of unwavering faith, touching lives both physically and, in recent times, through the digital world. Pastor Thomas heralded the expansion of our virtual ministry, a realm where the Great Commission continues to flourish, proving that our church's reach far exceeds its walls. Sister Debra Salley's stirring testimony underscored this point, as she shared the transformative impact of virtual worship on her life, reminding us that "what man made for bad—God made for good."

Our honored guest, Rev. Dr. Lloyd T. McGriff, eloquently delivered the message "Don't Come Down" from Nehemiah 4:1-9, urging us to persist in our God-given purpose, to be the change, to embrace the power of prayer, and to recognize that with God, our "little" becomes "a lot." He reminded us that spiritual tenacity is not bound by age but by the spirit we embody.

Dr. McGriff concluded with a rallying call to faith over fear, reinforcing the scripture "If God is for us, who can be against us?"

As we reflect on the dual heritage of our church, we acknowledge the shared beginnings with Shiloh Old Site and the broader history that even First Baptist Church recognizes. Our story is a part of a grander narrative, rich in history and abundant in grace—a narrative we vow to preserve and honor. To God be the glory for all that has been accomplished, and for all the blessings that have, and will continue to, flow from our faith-filled community.

Diaconate Activities This Quarter

Clergy Appreciation Month. Each October, the Diaconate encourages our congregation to celebrate our ministerial staff during Clergy Appreciation Month.



This year, Deacon Team 6, Deacons Barbara Green and Doug Richardson, coordinated with the Minister Wives and Minister Widows Ministry to present gifts to our clergy in appreciation to those who "Preach the word...in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction" (2 Timothy 4:2). We are grateful for our pastor and ministerial staff!

Fall Revival. Deacon Team 7, Deacons Jeri Swann and George Miller, coordinated the planning for Fall Revival, which was held October 16-18 at 7:00pm nightly. Our revival theme was "Be Anxious for Nothing" from Deuteronomy 16:20 and Philippians 4:6-8. The guest revivalist was Rev. Dr. Tyrone P. Jones, IV, pastor of First Baptist Church of Guilford in Columbia, Maryland. His outstanding messages filled our spiritual souls with God's Word each night:



- Monday, Oct 16: "Only by Faith" (1 Kings 17:17)
- Tuesday, Oct 17: "Music That Puts You in the Mood" (1 Samuel 19:8-10)
- Wednesday, Oct 18: "Mid-Day and Midnight Moments" (Acts 16:25-30)

We are grateful and blessed to have had Rev. Dr. Jones and his wife, Rev. Dr.



Elizabeth Sapp Jones, join us for revival. Rev. Dr. Jones' messages are constant reminders of God's love, provisions, and will for each of us. The Diaconate thanks everyone who assisted in planning, coordinating, conducting and supporting the Fall Revival.

Missionary Ministry's Coat Donation Project

We praise and thank God for another opportunity to assist our communities through giving! On October 14, 2023, the Missionary Ministry donated 63 coats to children in the surrounding communities. A huge thank you to the members of the Coat Donations Project, Jill Byrd Project Manager, Wanda James, Delores Brown, Isabel Nelson, and Lisa Walden.



Usher Ministry Update



The Fruits of the Usher's Service:

🌸 Love: As ushers, we welcome all with the love of Christ, inviting each person into God's house with open arms and hearts.

🕒 Joy: Our service is performed with joy, reflecting the happiness found in God's love and sharing it with each congregant.

⚖️ Peace: In our role, we strive to be peacemakers, ensuring a tranquil and reverent atmosphere for worship.

🌿 Patience: With every service, we exhibit patience, understanding the unique needs and timings of our church family.

Cont., The Fruits of the Usher's Service:

🌺 Kindness: Kindness is our guide in every interaction, showing God's grace through our attentive and caring demeanor.

✨ Goodness: We pursue goodness in our duties, ensuring that our actions reflect the righteousness of our faith.

🔗 Faithfulness: Our commitment is steadfast, reliably serving week after week, embodying the faithfulness we're called to.

🪶 Gentleness: Our approach is gentle, ensuring that the sanctuary remains a place of comfort and refuge.

🔒 Self-control: We exercise self-control, remaining composed and focused, setting an example for the congregation.

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Celebration of Our Seasoned Citizens

In September, the Ministers' Wives and Ministers' Widows along with the Seasoned Citizens Group celebrated our Seasoned Citizens by having a week of fun activities. The activities actually began with a Grandparents Day celebration during morning worship service on Sunday, September 10, 2023.

Our outstanding Mens Choir provided the musical offerings, Sister Vickye Frasier did an awesome job as Worship Leader and Charlotte Holland gave a beautiful tribute to Grandparents. Minister Jean Meney blessed us with the the spoken word that touched our hearts. Sister Debra Hamm provided the tasty repast and Sister Gale Jones provided the beautiful decorations. The colors of the day were purple and white, and all grandparents were presented with a purple lapel ribbon to wear.

On Tuesday, September 12, the Seasoned Citizens week began with a virtual activity entitled No One Teaches You How to Age. This was presented by our own Dr. Judy Coles-Bailey and Ms. Patricia Holland from Healthy Generations on Aging. The presentation was very informative and is now available for viewing on YouTube.

Game Day was held on Thursday and was hosted by Minister Jean Meney and the Seasoned Citizens Group. Various games were enjoyed such as Bingo, and lovely gifts were given. After the games a tasty boxed lunch was enjoyed by all. It was a blessed day of fun and fellowship.

Friday was Movie Day, another virtual activity. The movie shown was "God is Not Dead", Volume 3. The movie can be viewed on YouTube.

The celebration of our Seasoned Citizens culminated on Sunday, September 17, with absolutely everyone aged 65+ participating in the morning worship service. Rev. Dr. Donna Rhaney was our Worship Leader. The Welcome was given by Brother Jerry Unruh, a tribute to Seniors was given by Sister Phyllis Bailey, and our very own Pastor Keenan Thomas delivered the message appropriately themed for Seasoned Citizens.

A delicious repast was prepared by Sister Debra Hamm and the absolutely gorgeous decorations were displayed by Sister Gale Jones. Colors of the day were burgundy and gold.

ALZHEIMER'S WALK 2023



The Fredericksburg Alzheimer's Walk 2023 was held on Saturday, October 14, 2023, at 10am at Old Mill Park. The Walk is held every year to help raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's research and programs. Many come out to walk for various reasons. Most have been impacted by the disease in some form or fashion. It's a time for many to honor loved ones who have died from the disease, currently have the disease, are caregivers, or maybe they work in one of the memory care facilities.

I personally walk in memory of my mother, Angela Dunagan. She had early on-set dementia and died at the young age of 60 in May 2011. I have walked every year since her death. I have also served on the local walk committee for many years, assisting with the planning and execution of the Walk here in Fredericksburg each year.

Each year, the team consists of Shiloh Baptist Church (New Site) and Target. I am grateful for all the volunteers and donors that have given every year. This year, our team raised \$1345. Donations can be made at www.alz.org/walk, find our team and donate. All donations are tax deductible. Donations will be accepted until December 31, 2023.



PINK SUNDAY AT SHILOH (NEW SITE)



Sunday, October 22, 2023, was the date selected by the Women's Ministry of Shiloh Baptist Church New Site for "Pink Sunday". Members were asked to wear pink in observance of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Every year in October, breast cancer awareness is brought to the forefront of national conversation. The message for 2023 was "Spread the word about mammograms, and encourage communities, organizations, families, and individuals to get involved. With early detection and treatment, most women can survive breast cancer." Members were given pamphlets and information about breast cancer and a goody bag with mints and Hershey kisses.

We praise God for every Survivor!

For those that might be going through breast cancer, know that we are here for you. A good scripture to meditate on is:

Psalm 18:2 "The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer; my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge. He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold."



Happy Thanksgiving Pastor Thomas, family and friends. As we are out and about initiating our holiday shopping, and spending more time with family and friends celebrating, we are reminded that this is also the season when many infectious respiratory illnesses become a health issue for us and our family members.

According to current statistics, COVID 19 is at its lowest ever nationally, in terms of those who test positive, and remain home on quarantine, those who are hospitalized, and those who have died. We must not, however, let our guards down because periodically, someone amongst us or a family member contracts COVID. There are carriers who are not themselves experiencing symptoms, but are passing the illness on to others.

I suggest we continue to be vigilant to prevent contracting COVID, wear the mask, keep your distance from strangers, avoid crowds, and get the second booster shot.

There are also other contagious respiratory diseases that wreak havoc to our bodies this time of year, i.e., the flu, pneumonia and RSV. Prevention includes wearing the mask, washing your hands, keep hands away from your face, staying away from sick people, keeping your distance from strangers, avoiding crowds and getting the vaccination when indicated.

The flu is characterized by fever, cough, sore throat, runny or stuffy nose, body aches, headache, chills and fatigue. Treatment includes rest, using a bowl of hot water to inhale to loosen secretions, and drinking plenty of fluids to keep the body hydrated. The preventive measure is to get the flu shot annually, especially for the elderly and those who are immunocompromised.

Pneumonia can be experienced with chest pain, coughing, and breathing difficulty. It can be mild or severe, and may be bacterial or viral. Viral pneumonia is not treated with antibiotics. The pneumonia vaccine is administered usually every ten years.

RSV- Respiratory Syncytial Virus causes infection of the lungs, and respiratory tract also; it is common among young children. Most people recover in one to two weeks, and it may be very serious in young babies. Symptoms are: headache, fever, runny nose, sore throat, feeling tired, congestion and cough. It is spread through a cough or sneeze, the same as other respiratory diseases. An individual is contagious for 2-3 days. RSV may lead to pneumonia. Prevention is vaccination.

As we enter a season of reflection and gratitude, let's immerse ourselves in the wisdom of the Word with "30 Scriptures of Thankfulness." These passages offer us a roadmap to a heart full of gratitude, teaching us to appreciate the abundance of blessings we receive daily. From the heartfelt praise in Psalms to the teachings of thankfulness in the New Testament, each scripture is a stepping stone towards a more thankful and fulfilling life. Whether it's through a daily reading plan, meditative prayer, or shared moments with loved ones, let these verses guide you towards a deeper, more profound sense of gratitude in all circumstances. Embrace the journey of thankfulness with these timeless scriptures.

30

Scriptures of Thankfulness

1. Psalm 107:1
2. 1 Chron. 29:13
3. Daniel 2:23
4. Psalm 95:2-3
5. Phil. 4:6
6. Philemon 1:4
7. Psalm 100:4
8. Isaiah 12:4
9. 1 Thess. 5:18
10. Psalm 106:1
11. Colossians 3:16
12. Hebrews 12:28
13. Psalm 118-1-8
14. Psalm 69:30
15. Psalm 105:1
16. Colossians 4:2
17. Psalm 28:7
18. Revelation 7:12
19. Jeremiah 33:11
20. Ephesians 5:20
21. Colossians 3:15
22. Jonah 2:9
23. Rev. 4:9-11
24. Luke 22:19
25. Psalm 75:1
26. Daniel 6:10
27. Psalm 136:1-3
28. 2 Cor. 1:11
29. Psalm 30:12
30. Rev. 11:17



THE SBCNS CHRISTMAS CARD EXCHANGE BEGINS ON 11/26/23



Salvation Army Bell Ringers

Saturday, December 10, 2022, 9am-5pm

The Men's and Women's Ministries will be Ringing
the Salvation Army Bell

Southpoint Walmart Superstore, 10001 Southpoint Pkwy, Fredericksburg,
VA.

There are one-hour time slots available for you

Please contact Deacon Stephen Griffin Griffiins5382@gmail.com

or Deacon Marqessa Njie at marqessa@hotmail.com for information.

25TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

*Bro. Michael & Sis. Felicia Minichini
Happy 25th Wedding Anniversary
October 3, 2023*



Genesis 2:24 - KJV Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

Shiloh Baptist Church (New Site)

525 Princess Anne Street
Fredericksburg, VA 22401
(540) 371-1153

Sunday School Classes – Fall 2023 ***Fall Theme: God's Covenants with People***

We have classes for all ages: Pre-K to Adults

All classes are hybrid (In-person or virtual)

Time: 8:30-9:30 AM, each Sunday

Class Options:

In-person classes: 515 Princess Anne Street (Education Building), Fredericksburg, VA 22401

Virtual Adult Class:

- Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83183020169?pwd=RmlrczFpbU41NHZiMFpuYUNsMm91QT09>
- Tel: 1 (301) 715-8592, Meeting ID: 831 8302 0169, Passcode: 765159

Virtual Youth and Young Adult Classes:

For more information and to join the youth and children's classes, please contact:

- Sunday School Superintendent: Denise Millner (denise.millner@cox.net) or
- Assist Sunday School Superintendent: Jeannette Ellis (jeanpellis@verizon.net)

Bible Study Classes

Virtual Women's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 7:00-8:15 PM

- Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87104947335?pwd=Uk45V0JM2N2aElrT3lObkxRODFRUT09>
- Tel: 1 (301) 715-8592 (or 1 (929) 205-6099), Meeting ID: 871 0494 7335, Passcode: 994436

Virtual Men's Bible Study: Tuesdays at 7:00-8:00 PM

- Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83222299240?pwd=REgzUE04VnpGYUhOcE12eEZsZ2REQT09>
- Tel: 1 (301) 715-8592 (or 1 (929) 205-6099), Meeting ID: 832 2229 9240, Passcode: 589175

Prayer & Praise / Kingdom Life Night: (In-person or virtual)

- Prayer & Praise: 6:30-7:00 PM, 525 Princess Anne Street, Fredericksburg (enter via side door)
- Kingdom Life Night: 7:00-8:00 PM (same location and entrance)
- Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86511085999?pwd=aXN3bmNibTczOUhlaFBwNmJUQ296dz09>
- Tel: 1 (301) 715-8592 (or 1 (929) 205-6099), Meeting ID: 865 1108 5999, Passcode: 22401



#Birthdays for the Next Month

30 people
Report Date: November 11, 2023

Shiloh Baptist Church (New Site)

Name	Birthday (without year)
Mark Cunningham	Dec 01
Jerre' Brown	Dec 04
Sidney Hankerson, Jr.	Dec 04
Sarah Monroe	Dec 05
Carissa James	Dec 06
Reva Branchcomb	Dec 06
Stephen Williams	Dec 08
William Wilson, Jr.	Dec 10
Carolyn Bell	Dec 11
Kelvin Lloyd	Dec 12
LaQuita Davis	Dec 12
Betty Dash	Dec 13
Stephanie Petty	Dec 13
Lauren Collier	Dec 14
Paula Wise	Dec 15
Lindburgh Bundy	Dec 16
Jaren Jackson	Dec 18
David Cole	Dec 19
Cynthia Watkins	Dec 21
Tamika Jackson	Dec 21
Micheal Lewis	Dec 22
Linda Parker	Dec 23
James White, Jr.	Dec 25
Carole Hamm	Dec 26
Camille Lynch	Dec 27
Renee LeMay	Dec 28
Arthur Wiggins, Jr.	Dec 29
Michael McKissack	Dec 29
Irene Green	Dec 30
Amelia Zaremba	Dec 31



Communications Ministry

Church Family,

If anyone has any upcoming milestone Wedding Anniversary dates or retirement announcements; we'd like to announce these milestone celebratory events in the church newsletter, starting with the next edition. Please contact me if you have any questions.



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**To all the SBCNS Ministries for their  
continued support  
and contributions to the Newsletter.**



**Articles for the next edition are due March 30th.**

**Please submit all completed articles in a PDF format and include the Word document version in case editing is required. Please limit your articles to one page and limit the number of photos; photos should be re-sized and placed within the document.**



## **Communications Ministry**

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**Submit to the Communications Ministry email @ [shilohpubmin2@gmail.com](mailto:shilohpubmin2@gmail.com)**



**Sis. Angela Brown Coleman, Lead, Communications Min. CAPSTONE Newsletter**  
**Sis. Tinovia Unruh, Co-Lead, Communications Min. CAPSTONE Newsletter**  
**Shiloh Baptist Church (New Site)**  
**Email: [shilohpubmin2@gmail.com](mailto:shilohpubmin2@gmail.com)**