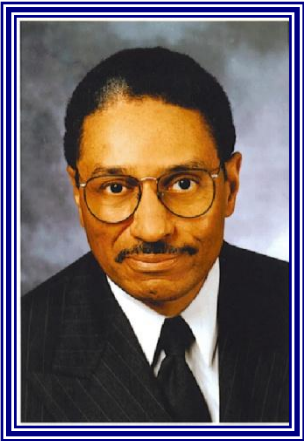


# The Shiloh Spirit



Wallace Charles Smith, D.Min.  
Senior Minister



## The Pastor's Pen

The story in Numbers 21:4-9 concerns the continuing drama of Israel's struggle to understand what it meant to be free people and the children of God. Previous to this chapter, God led them to the Jordan River. Spies crossed over into the place God promised would be their homeland. All was ready for the crossing, but for one minor detail. Israel was afraid of the unknown and justified their fears by saying the people of the land were giants, and they, Israel, seemed like grasshoppers. For their disobedience they were punished by being forced to wander in the wilderness for 40 years.

We might think that such a harsh sentence would have taught Israel a lesson. This was anything but the case. A rebellion was led by Korah who was jealous of Moses and felt he was as qualified to lead Israel as was Moses. The result was that the anger of God waxed hot against the rebels and thousands who supported Korah were swallowed up by the earth.

Even this awesome response by God to Israel's disobedience did not deter the people's disobedience. The people again murmured and complained about God and the conditions of life in the wilderness. In Numbers 21:4-9, God sent poisonous snakes through the camp and again thousands died. This time the cause of death was a snake bite. Because God loves for us is so great we are never left comfortless, and neither were the children of Israel. God instructed Moses to build a bronze serpent, place it on a pole and sit it in the middle of the camp. All who looked up at the snake and believed were cured of their poisonous wounds.

The story of ancient Israel is instructive for those of us in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. Times are challenging. There are unprecedented down turns in the economy, rising joblessness and a general feeling of anxiety about our nation's future. Yet and still, the cure for all the snake bites we face, emotional, physical and spiritual, is our belief in God. Regardless of how difficult our personal circumstances, God still loves us, cares for us and is willing to heal the most severe circumstances if we only believe.

Volume XVII, No 11

Sunday, March 22, 2009

## Reading Through The Bible

### March 22:

*Numbers 21:4-9; Psalm 107 1-3, 17-22; Ephesians 2:1-10; John 3:14-21*

### March 29:

*Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16; Hebrews 5:5-10; John 12:20-33*

### April 5 – Palm Sunday

*Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-15; Phillipians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15*

New Members Received by  
Grace Circle



# *This Week at Shiloh*

## **Sunday, March 22, 2009**

Morning Prayer Service (7:00 a.m.).....	Deacons' Room
DCCF Credit Union .....	LL/FLC
New Members Fellowship Activity (9:30 a.m.).....	HHS/FLC
Alpha Class (9:30 a.m.).....	Gym/FLC
Caleb Class (9:30 a.m.) .....	Sanctuary/P Street Side-Rear
E.L. Harrison Class (9:30 a.m.) .....	COH/FLC
Ever Ready Class (9:30 a.m.) .....	Library/FLC
Excelsior Class (9:30 a.m.).....	Sanctuary/Center
Genesis Class (9:30 a.m.) .....	RBC/FLC
John A. Miles Class (9:30 a.m.).....	208/FLC
Littlejohn Class (9:30 a.m.) .....	Gym/FLC
Silent Mission Class (9:30 a.m.) .....	Gym/FLC
Waldron/Gill Class (9:30 a.m.).....	Gym/FLC
Walker Memorial Class (9:30 a.m.).....	216/FLC
Young Adult Class (9:30 a.m.) .....	Gym/FLC
Nursery & Pre-K Classes (9:30 a.m.).....	LLA&B/FLC
Elementary & Upper Elementary Classes (9:30 a.m.).....	LL/FLC
Jonathan Class (9:30 a.m.).....	Sanctuary/Balcony
Middle School Class (9:30 a.m.).....	RBC/FLC
Senior High Class (9:30 a.m.).....	TF/FLC
<i>Alpha Circle Meeting</i> .....	208/FLC
<i>Friendly Circle Meeting</i> .....	216/FLC
<i>Fellowship Circle Meeting</i> .....	COH/FLC
<i>Omega Circle Meeting</i> .....	Gym/FLC
<i>Torch Bearers Circle Meeting</i> .....	LL/FLC
<i>Whets/Tabitha Missionary Group Meeting</i> .....	Library/FLC
Guest Hospitality .....	HHS/FLC
Membership Update.....	HHS/FLC

## **Monday, March 23, 2009**

10:00 – Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach.....	216/FLC
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## **Tuesday, March 24, 2009**

10:00 - Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach .....	216/FLC
1:00 - Time of Contemplation.....	Sanctuary
5:00 - Male Youth Project .....	Gym/FLC
6:00 - Usher Board Executive Committee Meeting .....	Ushers' Room
6:30 - Senior Choir Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
7:00 - General Usher Board Meeting .....	Ushers' Room
7:00 - Boy Scouts Council District Committee Meeting .....	Ushers' Room
7:15 - Wallace Charles Smith Young Adult Ensemble Rehearsal.....	Choir Room

## **Wednesday, March 25, 2009**

10:00 - Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach .....	216/FLC
11:45 - Mid-Week Bible Study.....	LL/FLC
1:00 - Senior Citizens Club.....	HH/FLC
5:00 - Male Youth Project .....	Gym/FLC
6:30 - Gospel Choir Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
7:00 - <b>Al-Anon Family Matters Meeting</b> .....	208/FLC

## Thursday, March 26, 2009

10:00 - Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach .....	216/FLC
10:00 - Needle Arts & Knitting Class .....	LL/FLC
1:00 - Time of Contemplation.....	Sanctuary
5:00 - Male Youth Project .....	Gym/FLC
6:30 - Prayer & Praise Service .....	Sanctuary
7:15 - Bible Institute.....	Sanctuary

## Friday, March 27, 2009

10:00 - Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach .....	216/FLC
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## Saturday, March 28, 2009

9:00 - Health Ministry Wellness Conference.....	Gym/FLC
10:00 - Social Justice Ministry Meeting.....	208/FLC
10:00 - Boy Scout Meeting.....	216/FLC
10:00 - SAT Class.....	COH/FLC
11:00 - Step Team Rehearsal.....	RBC/FLC
12:00 - Gospel Choir Rehearsal.....	Sanctuary
1:00 - Church School Easter Play Rehearsal.....	LL & 216/FLC

## Sunday, March 29, 2009

Early Morning Prayer Service (7:00 a.m.).....	Deacons' Room
DCCF Credit Union .....	LL/FLC
African American Heritage Program – ASALH (9:30 a.m.) .....	Sanctuary
Youth Church (11:00 a.m.).....	COH/FLC
Guest Hospitality .....	TF/FLC
Book Club Meeting.....	LL/FLC
Membership Update Session .....	HHS/FLC
New Freedom Seder for t he Earth (5:00 p.m.).....	HH/FLC

# Third Annual Wellness Conference for Women

**Saturday, March 28, 2009**  
**9:00 am- 1:30 p.m.**  
**Family Center Gymnasium**

Free confidential screening tests: American Kidney Fund, Exercise Demonstrations (aerobics, strength training and other exercises, complimentary neck massages, nutrition information and light refreshments.

Keynote Speaker

Contact Sheryl E. Lucas, M.D. (301/929-7141); Gwendolyn D. Prioleau (202/388-0813) for more information.



# Thank You

My Dear Shiloh Family – Words don't seem adequate to express my sincere appreciation for your prayers, cards, phone calls, and expressions of concern while my mother (Eddie Bibbs) was in the hospital and currently, as I care for her. I am grateful to God for such a supportive church family. I thank you for your prayers, love and encouragement. My mother sends her love and heartfelt appreciation. Special thanks to Reverend and Mrs. Smith; Reverend George Mensah, Reverend Crystal Kuykendall, Trustee Christine B. Clark, Deacons James Grigsby, Sonja Ray, Diana Roach, Patricia Cherry, Jocelyn Frye, Charles Hall, Sr., John Williams, Gregory Prioleau, Deaconess Edna Cash, the Torch Bearers Circle, the General Usher Board, Circle Leaders Council, HBCU Council, Youth Council and special friends including Patricia Stephenson, Audrey Stephenson, Aldith Coleman, Thelma Pugh, Yvonne McGhee, Alice Franklin-Rier, Fern Clark, Archie Prioleau, Isabelle Mack, Denise Woodruff, Bridnetta Edwards, J. Otis Harris, Jr., Yvonne Pegram, Doretta Bass, Geneva Holley, Linda Johnson, Carolyn Haynesworth Murrell, Cindy and Lauren Smith, Mary Navies, JoAnne Beasley, Penny Oler, Mack Pascal, Carrie Wade, Joyce Lucas Terry, Sylvia Simrel, Nancy Tyler, Arlisa Miles, Jerelyn Smith and my entire Shiloh family. May God continue to keep you in His divine care. With Sincere appreciation –

Rita Bibbs-Booth and Family

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for He is good; for his steadfast love endures forever (1 Chronicles 16:34)

Reverend Wallace Charles Smith and Shiloh Baptist Church Family – thank you for sharing your love in my time of need. The love of family and friends like you has given me great strength.

Brooke

## Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is extended to the family of Nathaniel Jenkins (Alpha Circle) and Jo Fisher Hall (Haggai Circle) in the loss of her brother-in-law, William Thomas Hall.

## Circles Receiving New Members

March 22 .....Grace Circle  
March 29 .....Haggai Circle

## Circles Serving Breakfast

March 22.....Excelsior Circle  
March 29.....Faith Circle

## Circles Leading Prayer & Praise Service

(Thursday Evenings – 6:30 p.m.)

March 26.....Hill Climbers & Hope Circles

## Membership Database Update

We thank our Shiloh members for working so well with us as we have worked to update our Shiloh membership database. During the month of March, we hope to update all the members who have not submitted information to-date. For the first Sunday, there will be only one session after church until 2:00 pm. All other Sundays we will have two sessions: the first from 9:30 am to 10:30 and the second from after church until 2:00 pm. The location is always Heritage Hall South unless you hear otherwise. Thank you.

### The Ushers' Corner March 2009

For training call Charlotte Bolton-Hicks  
(301/499-0628)

Sunday, March 22 – Unit #6 Serves

Thursday, March 26  
6:30 p.m. – Prayer & Praise Service, Unit #6 Serves  
Bible Institute

Sunday, March 29 – Unit #1 Serves

## Congratulations.....

**Sekai Person** (Sunshine Circle) is a junior at the Oxon Hill High School Science and Tech Program. Sekai is also an honor roll student and a member of the Oxon Hill High School Choir.

During the Spring break, Sekai will join the award winning music department as they travel to Italy to perform in Rome, Florence and Venice (April 3-April 12). The choir will also perform with students in Italy as well as take part in clinics and performances by the well known conductor, Dr. Rollo Dilworth of Chicago, IL. This is sure to be an enriching experience for Sekai and your prayers for her safe travel are appreciated.

## Circle Leaders Council Spring Festival 2009



### *Dancing with the Shiloh Stars*

The Circle Leaders Council Spring Festival Committee is searching for dancers who can tango, waltz, jitterbug, hand dance, two step, creative dance, hip hop or swing. Bring your dancing shoes and music. Auditions will be held on Saturday, March 21, 2009 (12:00 Noon until 2:00 p.m.). The STARS chosen will perform on the *Village Cruise* – April 24<sup>th</sup>. Come out and show off your talents. For more information come to the Event Center today!!!!



## Village Land Cruise

Friday, April 24, 2009

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

*Fun, Food and Entertainment*

Boarding Passes Available Today at the

Event Center

\$12.00

## Flea Market

Saturday, April 25, 2009

12:00 Noon - 3:00 p.m.

FAMILY FUN, GAMES,  
FOOD & MORE

*All Are Welcome*

## Book Club

The Shiloh Book Club will meet on Sunday, March 29, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. in the Lower Level of the Family Life Center. The highlight of the meeting will be a discussion on the book, *Dreams of My Father* by Barack Obama. The book is published by Three Rivers Press and may be ordered from [www.Amazon.com](http://www.Amazon.com).

## New Freedom Seder for the Earth

On Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 pm, Shiloh will join the Shalom Center at a national Seder focusing on healing the earth to be held in the Family Life Center. This Seder will be jointly led by multireligious/multicultural leaders, artists and activists.

The Seder commemorates the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the original Freedom Seder which wove together Black, Jewish, and other liberation struggles. A Seder is a traditional Jewish symbolic meal that commemorates the Liberation of the ancient Israelites from slavery under Pharaoh.

If you would like to attend the Seder, you may reserve your seat by calling Deacon Diana Roach (202/635-3132) or Ms. Marlene Howard (202/232-4200).

