



The Pastor's Pen

Below is Part 2 of an article written by Bob Core, a photojournalist from New York City, who presents an assessment of President Barak Obama's accomplishments.

Obama's Accomplishments: Here is the updated list of what I judge to be Obama's most significant accomplishments in the less than 2 years since he was elected as President of the United States: As you read through this list, I ask you to weigh the totality of these achievements listed below against those accomplishments of Obama's presidential predecessors, Democrats and Republicans, and then, after considering this, make your determination of whether you think he has done a good job.

Financial industry reform: The most sweeping financial industry reform legislation since the Great Depression, this legislation tries to correct those industry issues that helped create the current recession we are still digging ourselves out of. It provides a system to allow the government to break apart large financial institutions that threaten the economy, creates a council of federal regulators to coordinate the detection of risks to the financial system, subjects a wider range of financial companies to government oversight, creates a Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection to help protect citizens from unscrupulous practices, and reins in banks' ability to trade in risky financial instruments such as credit derivatives.

Preventing a 2nd Great Depression: While "preventing a depression" is not sexy and certainly is reactive, history may say that this is still one of his most important accomplishments to date. The vast majority of economists and experts say that the nation had a high chance of slipping in to a Depression had this stimulus not passed along with the innovative actions of the Fed. Obama has worked with Bernanke and the Fed, put a team of some of the best economic minds around, helped save America's 3 major car manufacturers from going out of business, passed the largest economic Stimulus Bill in the nation's history, and executed other legislative changes to keep liquidity flowing in our economy, save jobs that would have otherwise been lost, and fund areas of our economy that are strategic and important for our long term economic competitiveness including health care, education, green energy, science, and infrastructure.

Of course, critics will say that the economy today is still sputtering, holds some risk of sliding back in to a recession, and that a real recovery will take many years. These are all true statements and Obama has not moved us from a possible Depression to a fast growing economy – but this is a completely unrealistic, almost childish, expectation given the severity of the financial crisis, our current debt, and other economic realities that we have to deal with. Could he have done more or done it differently? Certainly. I would have loved to see Obama do more, faster to invest in small businesses, help them get loans, and help them become more competitive with the large corporations that increasingly dominate our economy. But today we are not in a horrible depression and things are stable and this alone is a tremendous accomplishment.

Bringing the war in Iraq to an end: Obama has reduced troops from a peak of 170,000 down to 50,000, with the remaining troops focused on training and recruiting Iraqi forces, rather than participating in combat. With this news, Obama delivered on a campaign promise he made while bringing to an end a misguided, expensive, and costly war which served no clear purpose. He also ensured that, in the process of wrapping up efforts in the region, he did so responsibly. Iraq is not in utter chaos as it once was at the peak of the insurgency and it stands a chance of having a reasonable future and being a reasonably stable Democratic state in the Middle East.

Volume XIX, No 45

Sunday, November 6, 2011

Lectionary: Reading Through The Bible

32nd Sunday of the Year – November 6
(Green)

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Psalm 78:1-7;
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18;
Matthew 25:1-13

33rd Sunday of the Year – November 13
(Green)

Judges 4:1-7; Psalm 123;
1 Thessalonians 5:1-11;
Matthew 25:14-30

New Members Received by Alpha Circle



This Week at Shiloh



Sunday, November 6, 2011 **Unity Service – Holy Communion** **10:00 a.m.**

| | |
|--|-------------|
| DCCF Credit Union | LL/FLC |
| Combined Adult Church School Classes (9:00 a.m.)..... | Sanctuary |
| Combined Children’s Church School Classes (9:00 a.m.) | LL/FLC |
| Combined Middle School & High School Sunday School Classes (9:00 a.m.) | TF/FLC |
| Youth Church (10:00 a.m.)..... | COH/FLC |
| Guest Hospitality (Alpha Circle) | TF/FLC |
| HBCU Council Meeting | LL/FLC |
| Nurses Unit Meeting | Library/FLC |
| Morgan State University Choir Concert (4:00 p.m.)..... | Sanctuary |

Monday, November 7, 2011 - Administrative Office & Family Life Center Closes at 2:00 p.m.

1:00 – Options Public Charter School.....Gym/FLC

Tuesday, November 8, 2011

10:00 – Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach Program

2:30 - **Options Public Charter School**

4:00 - Male Youth Program

6:00 – Taekwondo Class.....

6:30 – Finance Committee Meeting

7:00 – Senior Choir Rehearsal

7:00 – Wallace Charles Smith Young Adult Ensemble

Wednesday, November 9, 2011

10:00 – Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach Program

12:30 – Senior Citizens Club Meeting

4:00 – Male Youth Program

5:00 – Grief Counseling Session.....

6:30 – Gospel Choir Rehearsal

6:30 – Family Life Center Board of Directors Meeting

6:30 – Women’s Day Committee Meeting

7:00 –**Al-Anon Family Matters Meeting**

Thursday, November 10, 2011

| | |
|---|---------|
| 10:00 – Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach Program | LL/FLC |
| 10:00 – Needle Arts & Knitting | HHS/FLC |
| 2:00 – Options Public Charter School | Gym/FLC |
| 4:00 – Male Youth Project..... | Gym/FLC |
| 6:30 – Prayer & Praise Service | HH/FLC |
| 7:00 – Fall Bible Institute | HH/FLC |

Friday, November 11, 2011 - *Administrative Office & Family Life Center Facilities Closed* *Veterans Day*

Saturday, November 12, 2011

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|--|--------------|
| 9:00 – Taekwondo Class..... | RBC/FLC |
| 10:00 – Boy Scouts | Library/FLC |
| 10:00 – Gideon Circle Meeting..... | Deacons Room |
| 10:00 – Senior Choir Rehearsal | Choir Room |
| 10:00 – Usher Board Bulleting Preparation..... | Ushers' Room |
| 11:00 – Deaconess Ministry Meeting | LL/FLC |
| 12:00 – Gospel Choir Soulful Messiah Rehearsal | Choir Room |
| 1:00 – Family Life Center Missions Meeting | COH/FLC |

Sunday, November 13, 2011

Veterans Recognition Sunday

Baptism – 10:55 a.m. Service

| | |
|---|------------------------------|
| DCCF Credit Union | LL/FLC |
| New Members Workshop/Adults (9:30 a.m.)..... | 216/FLC |
| New Members Workshop/Children & Youth (9:30 a.m.) | 208/FLC |
| Jonathan Sunday School Class..... | Sanctuary/Balcony |
| Middle School Class..... | RBC/Gym |
| Elementary Class..... | LL-A/FLC |
| Upper Elementary Class | LL-Front/FLC |
| Nursery & Pre-K Classes..... | LL-A&B/FLC |
| Senior High Class..... | LL-Rear/FLC |
| Alpha Church School Class | Gym/FLC |
| Caleb Church School Class | Sanctuary/P Street Side-Rear |
| E.L. Harrison Church School Class | COH/FLC |
| Ever Ready Church School Class | Gym/FLC |
| Excelsior Church School Class | Sanctuary/Center |
| Genesis Church School Class | Library - Gym/FLC |
| John A. Miles Church School Class | Library – Gym/FLC |
| Littlejohn Church School Class | Gym/FLC |
| Silent Mission Church School Class | Gym/FLC |
| Waldron/Gill Church School Class | Gym/FLC |
| Walker Memorial Church School Class | Gym/FLC |
| Young Adult Church School Class | TF/FLC |
| Guest Hospitality (Antioch Circle) | TF/FLC |

Discipleship News

Welcome New Members

Mary Butler-Aiken – Adah Circle
Shawn M. Callaway – Adah Circle

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Sue Haythe (Helping Hand Circle) in the loss of her mother, Louise Gaines (Helping Hand Circle), grandmother of Shirley and Chunie Barath and Dianne Gilchrist (Grace Circle) in the loss of her mother, Olious Gilchrist (Alpha Circle).



“There’s a sweet, sweet spirit in this place, and I know that it’s the presence of the Lord.”

Dear Pastor Smith - It has been said that when the going gets tough, the tough get going. Well, at 9th and P, when the going gets tough, Shiloh shines brightest! I wish to thank you, the Ministry of Deacons Ministry, members of the Deaconess Ministry, my Berean Circle family, my Fellowship Circle family, my Senior Choir and Gospel Choir family, Lorella Willis, Deacon Sonja Ray, LaDora Cobb and all of my Shiloh family for your prayers, cards, gifts, phone calls and words of encouragement during my time of bereavement for the death of my cousin Elaine Chavis. Elaine was very much like an older sister to me and I will miss her greatly, but you are helping me to cope and move on. I am grateful for your love and your caring. May God bless you, one and all.

Sylvia G. Wiggins

Dear Shiloh Family - thank you for being a very special part of my life. Special thanks for your prayers, visits, and cards during my hospital stay and when I returned home Reverend Robert Felton, Deacons Jerome Navies, Keith Ellis, Roland Hill, Earnestine Smart, Kent Amos, and Sonja Ray; Johnnie Jones, Gloria Thompson, Elois Lawson, Anna Pegram, Emma Dennis, members of Pilgrim Circle and the Senior Citizens Club. May God bless each of you. Please continue to keep me in your prayers. Thank you from the bottom of my heart. *To God Be the Glory.*

Jessie Coleman

Circles Receiving New Members

November 6Alpha Circle
November 13Antioch Circle
November 20Berean Circle
November 27Bethel Circle

Circles Serving Breakfast

November 6..... Phoebe Circle
November 13Pilgrim Circle
November 20 Progressive Circle
November 27 Queen Esther Circle

Circles Leading Mid-Week Worship

(Prayer & Praise – Thursday Evening – 6:30 p.m.)

November 3..... Antioch & Berean Circles
November 10Bethel & Calvary Circles
November 17 Dorcas & Eula Mae Harrison Circles
November 24 - THANKSGIVING

Ushers’ Corner November 2011

Sunday, Nov. 6 – Units #1/3 serve
Thursday, Nov. 10 – Units #1/3 serve
6:30 p.m. Prayer & Praise, Bible Study

Sunday, Nov. 13 – Unit #2 serves
Thursday, Nov. 17 – Unit #2 serves
6:30 p.m. Prayer & Praise, Bible Study

For Training, call Charlotte Bolton-Hicks at (301) 499-0628



Messiah Poinsettias

Poinsettias will adorn the sanctuary for the *Messiah*. If you wish to donate a poinsettia in memory of your loved one(s), in honor of a birthday or a special occasion, orders are being taken today through Sunday, November 20, 2011. Poinsettias are \$20 each; please see Evelyn Hider at the Event Center. For more information, call 301-559-9146. **All orders MUST be paid for and submitted by Sunday, November 20, 2011.**

Congregational Care

Hope Within Darkness

The cross is how to work for the answer without becoming part of the problem. The cross is about how to stand against hate without becoming hate yourself. How can you stand against hate without letting it frame the question? How do we oppose evil, the hurts, the betrayals, the abandonment, the rejections, and the disappointments in our lives, the people who let us down, the people who turn against us, and the people who tell untruths about us? How do we stand against that in a way that we do not become a mirror image of the same thing?

We turn to the cross. The cross is a geometric image that you can hold onto and draw life from because it is a cruciform pattern of reality. We know that reality is filled with contradictions. Jesus was killed on the collision of cross-purposes. With conflicting interests and half-truths, we can live and hold the contradictions of the world. When we do this we are the agents of all true transformation, reconciliation and newness. (Adapted from, [Hope Against Darkness](#))

Minister Eileen Crawford



Congratulations

The Shiloh family extends our warmest wishes to Aleia Blount, daughter of Raymond & Reverend NaKeisha Sylver Blount. Aleia is now at home with her loving family after several weeks in the NICU.

You may send personal notes to the Blount family at:

10011 Carters Grove Road
Fredericksburg, VA 22408

New Members Workshop

The Winter session of the New Members Workshop will begin on Sunday, November 13. (9:30 a.m. – Room 216 – Family Life Center). All new members who have not attended the workshop or completed the workshop are encouraged to attend.

HBCU Corner

November 6 – 4:00 p.m. - Join the HBCU Council of Shiloh Baptist Church as we welcome the Morgan State University Choir in Concert. This is a concert that you do not want to miss. Dinner will be served immediately after service. Hope to see you there.

November 19 - Woodbury Commons Shopping Trip. Looking for gifts for your family, friends, birthdays, anniversaries, Christmas...possibly yourself? Join the HBCU Council as we travel to the largest outlet mall on the east coast - Woodbury Commons. Cost: \$50 per person. Please see any HBCU Council member or check us out at the Event Center.. Bus will depart and return to Shiloh.

Circle Leaders Council Cluster Meeting

Fellowship, Mount Sinai, Olivet and Queen Esther Circles

November 13, 2011 - Gym

Shiloh Members

Have you signed up for OneBody?

If not you may do so by contacting our Technology Committee at:

Technology@shilohbaptist.org

