

The Shiloh Spirit



The Pastor's Pen

The Reverend Dr. Wallace Charles Smith
Senior Minister

For this week's Pen we have reprinted an article by Jim Wallis from the September 22, 2011 **Sojourners**

The hot phrase in Washington, D.C., this week is "class warfare." Paul Ryan, John Boehner, Mitch McConnell, and a host of Republican presidential candidates have attacked President Barack Obama as a class warrior because he has suggested that the wealthiest individuals in the country, along with the largest corporations, should pay what he calls their "fair share" of the costs of both deficit reduction and putting Americans back to work. Well, let's be clear: There really is a class war going on, and the upper class is winning. As former President Bill Clinton also pointed out this week, 90 percent of income gains in the last decade went to the top 10 percent, and 40 percent of the increased wealth went to the top 1 percent. The middle class has lost ground in the same period. And we can now say that the only growth in this economy seems to be the skyrocketing poverty figures that the Census Bureau released last week. Almost 50 million Americans are now in poverty -- the highest rate in 50 years, including 22 percent of all our children -- in this the richest country in the world. But when anybody talks about fairness or equity or morality in economics, or when anyone even begins to challenge the greatest inequality since the 1920s, they are quickly accused of engaging in "class warfare." So why is it when the top 1 percent of the country controls 42 percent of the nation's financial wealth -- more than 90 percent of the rest of us -- and the ratio of CEO pay to average workers salaries is 400 to 1, it is NOT class warfare? Yet simply calling for a return of the highest-end tax rates to the 1990s levels IS?

Imagine a bomber pilot cruising high above the clouds, utterly destroying a city below him. After much devastation, a kid with a sling shot hurls a stone at the airplane that is leveling his city and community. The stone pings on the fuselage and the pilot becomes indignant. "These people are engaged in warfare," he exclaims. "Who do they think they are? This kind of behavior will divide people and is just irresponsible!"

So where is God in all of this? Is God into class warfare? No, of course not. God really does love us all, sinners and saints alike, rich and poor, mansion dwellers and ghetto residents. But the God of the Bible has a special concern for the poor and is openly suspicious of the rich. And if that is not clear in the Bible, nothing is. You might say when it comes to economics, God has a bias toward the poor. God's prophets say that nations will be judged by how they treat the poor and vulnerable -- not by how much they lower tax rates for the wealthy. Listen to what the prophets Amos, Micah, Isaiah, and Jeremiah say about the rich and the poor, about fairness and justice, about inequality and equity. Is there any doubt that if the biblical prophets were saying such things in the House of Representatives or on Fox News today that they, too, would all be accused of class warfare?

*In 2008, the wealthiest 400 Americans on average paid only 18 percent of their income in taxes. But they (and their political representatives) continue to angrily push back against the so-called "Buffett Rule," which would require wealthy people to at least pay taxes at rates closer to what their secretaries and other employees do. "Class warfare might make for good politics, but it makes for rotten economics," Rep. Paul Ryan said on "Fox News Sunday" earlier this week. But, according to a new report by the International Monetary Fund, Ryan is just wrong. The IMF report says the widening income gap is bad for economic recovery. Growing income inequality actually hinders economic growth, and reducing economic inequality actually helps spur the economy, the report found. The IMF study concluded that a 10 percent decrease in inequality actually **increased** the expected economic growth by 50 percent. "Sustainable economic reform," the authors write, "is possible only when its benefits are widely shared." So the call for economic fairness -- what Paul Ryan decries as "class warfare" -- may not be "rotten economics" at all but, in fact, rather good economics, as well as good morality. Maybe God has a point.*

Jim Wallis is the author of Rediscovering Values: A Guide for Economic and Moral Recovery, and CEO of Sojourners.

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Sunday, October 2, 2011

Lectionary: Reading Through The Bible

27th Sunday of the Year – October 2
(Green)
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Psalms 19;
Philippians 3:4b-14; Matthew 21:33-46

28th Sunday of the Year – October 9
(Green)
Exodus 32:1-14; Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23;
Philippians 4:1-9; Matthew 22:1-14

29th Sunday of the Year – October 16
(Green)
Exodus 33:12-23; Psalms 99; 1
Thessalonians 1:1-10; Matthew 22:34-46

New Members Received by Torch Bearers Circle



This Week at Shiloh

Sunday, October 2, 2011

Unity Sunday - 10:00 a.m.
Holy Communion
Installation of Officers



DCCF Credit Union	LL/FLC
Combined Adult Church School Classes.....	Sanctuary
Combined Middle School and Senior High Church School Classes	TF/FLC
Combined Children's Church School Classes	LL/FLC
Youth Church (10:00 a.m.)	COH/FLC
Guest Hospitality (<i>Torch Bearers Circle</i>)	TF/FLC
HBCU Council Meeting	LL/FLC
Nurses Unit Meeting	Library/FLC
YACS Fellowship Meeting.....	HHN/FLC

Monday, October 3, 2011-Administrative Offices and Family Life Center Facilities
Closes at 2:00 p.m.

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

Tuesday, October 4, 2011

10:00 – Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach Program	LL/FLC
2:30 – Options Public Charter School	Gym/FLC
4:00 – Care for Youth.....	LL/FLC
4:00 – Male Youth Project.....	Gym/FLC
5:30 – Messiah Committee Chairs Meeting.....	TF/FLC
6:00 – Taekwondo Class.....	RBC/FLC
6:30 – Circle Leaders Council Meeting.....	HH/FLC
6:30 – Senior Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
7:15 –Wallace Charles Smith Young Adult Ensemble Rehearsal	Choir Room

Wednesday, October 5, 2011

10:00 – Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach Program	LL/FLC
4:00 – Male Youth Project.....	Gym/FLC
6:30 – Gospel Choir Rehearsal	Choir Room
7:00 – Al-Anon Family Matters Meeting	COH/FLC

Thursday, October 6, 2011

10:00 – Deaf & Hard of Hearing Outreach Program	LL/FLC
10:00 – Needle Arts & Knitting.....	HHS/FLC
4:00 – Male Youth Project.....	Gym/FLC
6:30 – Prayer & Praise Service	Sanctuary
7:00 – Fall Bible Institute	Sanctuary

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

12:30 – Options Public Charter School.....Gym/FLC

Saturday, October 8, 2011

9:00 – Taekwondo Class.....RBC/FLC
 10:00 – Boy Scouts Meeting.....Library/FLC
 10:00 – Computer Class Computer Lab
 10:00 – Usher Board Bulletin Preparation Ushers’ Room
 1:00 – Family Life Center Missions Meeting COH/FLC

Sunday, October 8, 2011

Baptism

DCCF Credit UnionLL/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 ClassGym/FLC
 Caleb Church School ClassSanctuary/P Street Side-Rear
 E.L. Harrison Church School Class COH/FLC
 Ever Ready Church School Class Gym/FLC
 Excelsior Church School ClassSanctuary/Center
 Genesis Church School Class Library – Gym/FLC
 John A. Miles Church School Class Library – Gym/FLC
 Littlejohn Church School ClassGym/FLC
 Silent Mission Church School ClassGym/FLC
 Waldron/Gill Church School ClassGym/FLC
 Walker Memorial Church School ClassGym/FLC
 Young Adult Church School Class TF/FLC
 New Members Workshop – Adults (9:30 a.m.)..... 216/FLC
 New Members Workshop –Youth (9:30 a.m.)..... 216/FLC
 Guest Hospitality (*Unity Circle*)..... TF/FLC
 Berean Circle Meeting..... COH/FLC
 Bethel Circle Meeting.....RBC/FLC
 Calvary Circle MeetingLibrary/FLC
 Faith Circle Meeting.....HHS/FLC
 Grace Circle MeetingLL/FLC
 Olivet Circle MeetingGym/FLC
 Phoebe Circle Meeting Choir Room
Trinity Baptist Church Reunion..... HHN/FLC
Eureka Lodge Divine Service..... Sanctuary

Dinner is available for purchase immediately following the Worship Service today (\$10.00) in Heritage Hall

Discipleship News

Welcome New Member

Gregory D. Winfree – Social Reapers Circle

Sympathy

Our deepest sympathy is extended to Karen Wilkins (Adah Circle) in the loss of her mother, Eloise Wilkins.

Thank You Notes

Pastor Smith, Reverend Desire P. Grogan, Ministerial Staff, Thomas Tyler, Wellington Wilder, Sharon Parker, Barbara Whitener, Gospel Choir, Senior Choir, Wallace Charles Smith Young Adult Ensemble, Ministry of Deacons, Ministry of Deaconess, Trustees, and Progressive Circle - Words cannot express how much we thank you for your LOVE, support and expressions of sympathy and ALL the help you provided us during the illness, passing, and home going of my beloved Grandmother Euna L. Wortham Smith. We are truly grateful for your friendship and support. May God continue to bless each and every one of you.

Andrea M. Johnson and Family

Thank you to Pastor Smith, Reverend Mensah, Ministry of Deacons, Deaconess Ministry, Sacrifice Circle, Senior Choir, and the Shiloh Church Family – I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to you all for your continuous prayer during my time of illness. The concern and love shown to me by my Shiloh family was SUCH a blessing. *May the Lord continue to bless you and keep you!*

Deacon Earnestine Smart

Dear Shiloh Family - My wife Viviane and my son Yohann join me to express a heartfelt thank you for your kind words, your prayers, and your sympathy on the passing of my father. The many cards (real and virtual) from members, Deacons and a letter from Pastor Smith have been helping me to cope with this loss. May God bless you abundantly in return. Truly in Christ.

Souleymane, Viviane and Yohann Coulibaly

2013 Anniversary Tour Update SAVE THE DATE!!!

Dr. Mark Wilson of Tutku Tours will be presenting information of the upcoming anniversary tour on November 5, 2011 in Heritage Hall at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Wilson will provide information on some of the sites that will be visited, review the itinerary and offer a Q&A session to answer any questions.

Mr. Wilson is the founder and director of the Asia Minor Research Center in Antalya, Turkey which focuses on the early Jewish and Christian history of Asia Minor. He is also the author of the book, **Biblical Turkey**, a guide to the Jewish and Christian sites of Asia Minor.

All are invited, even if you did not sign up and please notify all persons in your individual groups of this first step in preparing for our spectacular Anniversary Tour of the Holy Land and Egypt.

97th Annual Ushers' Day Observance

Prayer Breakfast

Standing Before God's Open Doors

Saturday October 22, 2011

9:00 a.m.

Reverend Dexter Nutall, Pastor

New Bethel Baptist Church

Guest Speaker

Donation - \$16/Adult; \$8/children

Circles Receiving New Members

October 9.....Unity Circle

Circles Serving Breakfast

October 9Mt. Sinai Circle

Circles Leading Mid-Week Worship

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

October 6Silent Mission & Social Reapers Circles

October 13Torch Bearers & Unity Circles

Church School Open House

You are invited to attend the 2011 Shiloh Church School Open House on October 23rd from 9:30-10:30 a.m. in the Family Life Center Gymnasium This open house will feature all of the Church School classes for persons age 18 and older. At this event, you will meet class members in a relaxed setting and learn about the activities of each class.

Attending Church School classes is one of the most important ways that you can work to deepen your spirituality.

Mark your calendar, attend, and bring a friend/neighbor/family member.

Church School Lessons At-A-Glance

Teaching and Learning

October 2 – *An Ordered Life* (Proverbs 29:16-27) – Wisdom is provided for living an ordered life. Wickedness and unrighteousness affect the entire community. However, God and God's laws are the ultimate sources of justice, and righteousness will prevail. God wants people to revere Him and obey Him by ordering their lives in the way of God.

October 9 - *The Superiority of Wisdom* (Ecclesiastes 9:13-18) – The parable of a poor man who saved a town is shared as an example of quiet, thoughtful wisdom. Wisdom is greater than strength and soft-spoken wisdom is better than loud words of foolishness.

Federal and State Government employees can now make contributions to the Family Life Center through the Combined Federal Campaign and the United Way by using the following codes: CFC 55022 and the United Way 9816.

Gospel Choir in Concert TODAY 1-4 PM

Come join the Shiloh Gospel Choir as they sing for the African American Civil War Museum's Reverend Henry McNeal Turner Concert Series. The museum is located at 1925 Vermont Avenue, N. W. in Washington, D. C. Today is Teacher Appreciation Day. It is FREE. There will be music, light refreshments and an opportunity to explore the educational opportunities and resources available at the museum for K-12 educators. The contact number is 202-667-2667.

HBCU CORNER

SAT/COLLEGE PREP WORKSHOP.

.October 15, 2011

9:00 am - 1:00pm.

This is a free event, but we ask that you register...so please call 888-210-8501. Please inform students in high school, family members, friends from other churches, etc. The facilitator for the SAT workshop will be a representative from the **PRINCETON REVIEW**. The College Preparedness Workshop will have a variety of panelists (i.e. admissions, financial aid, scholarships, etc.). This is a must for first generations going to college. We want you to feel empowered and educated to highs and lows of preparing for college. Light refreshments will be served.

MORGAN STATE UNIVERSITY CONCERT CHOIR CONCERT

The renowned Morgan State University Concert Choir will be in concert at Shiloh Baptist Church on November 6, 2011 at 4:00 pm. Dinner will be served after morning worship service. Hope to see you there and we thank you in advance for supporting one of our Historically Black Colleges & Universities.

WOODBURY COMMONS SHOPPING TRIP NOVEMBER 19, 2011

It's that time of year again! Look for members of the HBCU Council at the event center starting in the middle of October to RSVP your seat. We have 2 buses on reserve so we have plenty of seats. Tickets are \$50 per person - So, get your Christmas list, birthday list and anniversary list together. If you would like to pay early, please see any member of the HBCU Council. SPREAD THE WORD.

