



The

# Shiloh Visitor

Sunday School  
9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship  
11:00 a.m.



A monthly newsletter from Shiloh Baptist Church

February 2009

*Our Church Family Has a Great Future!!*

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## Transition Team Update

### External Relationships

*submitted by Brenda Hastings*

*"From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work."  
Ephesians 4:16*

Another great thing about Shiloh Baptist Church is that we are on Mission for God. Not only do we work within our community, our work affects the world! We can reach out to the ends of the earth through our partnerships and relationships we have with extended arms. These arms include the Southern Baptist Convention, the Virginia Baptist Mission Board, and the Fredericksburg Area Baptist Network. There are advantages to be a part of each of these entities. These relationships are part of our history and heritage.

Through the Southern Baptist Convention, we directly support the mission work of both North American Missionaries as well as International Missionaries. The World Changers Mission teams that we have sent are coordinated through the SBC.

The Virginia Baptist Mission Board gives us the opportunity to support missions throughout the state. Among those are Campus Ministries and Disaster Relief. Shiloh has had Campus Ministry teams lead us in worship services. Also, Mike Oberschmidt, a King George resident, has come to show us what the Disaster Relief teams do in emergency situations.

The VBMB also has many resources available to us. Often, pastor search committees begin with collecting resumes from the VBMB. Direct support for the church has come from the VBMB. Among services/resources that Shiloh has used from the VBMB include: guest speakers for mission emphasis, pulpit supply, Sunday School seminars, and training seminars. Our Impact Virginia! youth summer mission trips are organized by the VBMB.

The Fredericksburg Area Baptist Network allows us to connect with local congregations for ministry. Among these include our Feed the Needy program. We have also been able to support back to school packs for the Bragg Hill community. Steve Aycock, our FABN Director of Missions, has spoken at Shiloh several times.

These larger entities allow Shiloh to reach places that we alone could not accomplish. Praise God for His body of resources to further His Kingdom!

✠

## DOWN MEMORY LANE

- ❑ On March 18, 1956, R. B. Richardson and Carrie Richardson presented themselves for church membership by letter from Montague Baptist Church.
- ❑ In 1956, J. Cleveland Grigsby was chairman of the Centennial Committee. Culena K. Grigsby, a member of the Centennial Dinner Committee, suggested that "all who could do so, bring basket dinners instead of the church buying hams as the cost would be rather high. Several hams would be donated for this dinner." Mrs. D. Thorne was appointed as chairman to register all who attended the Centennial. John R. Quesenberry, Edgar Edwards, R. B. Richardson, and H. H. Scott were appointed as a committee to look after the parking.
- ❑ October 3, 1978, was the beginning of a new Sunday School year. Eldridge Rowe was the Sunday School Director, and the following were received for membership in our church: Lawrence and Edna Lee. They came on promise of letter from Montague Baptist Church.

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# In the Spotlight...

## Edna Lee — Good Things Come in Small Packages

by Jane Heath



Lawrence and Edna Lee,  
married in 1950

There's a whole lot of truth in that old adage, "Looks can be deceiving." At first glance, our subject appears to be just a dainty little example of humanity. A closer look, however, reveals quite a different story. The daughter of tenant farmers, Edna Lee Richardson was born July 10, 1932, in Caroline County, and has no record of her birth and weight statistics. Today, at a mere 5 feet in stature, one can surmise that she was just a wee little bundle when she made her entrance into this world. The second of four children born to Rufus and Carrie Richardson, Edna has an older sister, Dot Merryman who resides in King George and a younger brother Lacy, who lives in Sandston, Virginia. A second brother died in infancy. Miss Edna may be tiny, but another old saying fits her to a tee. "Good things come in small packages," which becomes quite obvious as we take our closer look.

The Richardson family moved to King George before Edna was a year old, and her first experience with public education took place in a one-room schoolhouse in Dogue. She must have made quite an impact there as that meeting place had to close down at the end of the year. The rest of her school years, with the exception of the last half of her senior year, were spent at the old King George school, which currently

houses the school board offices. Having always been on the small side, Edna recalls being the shortest one in her classes during those school days. However, she never let that get in the way of things she wanted to do.

At the close of her senior year's first semester, Edna's parents moved the family to Augusta County in the Shenandoah Valley. Leaving King George meant leaving her sweetheart Lawrence Lee. However, their separation was short-lived because as soon as school was out, Edna came back and she and Lawrence married June 3, 1950. Lawrence had kept the flame of love alive by traveling to the valley almost every weekend to continue their courtship. Before Lawrence went home to be with the Lord in December of 2006, they shared 56-1/2 years as man and wife.

*One of her mottos has  
always been,  
"The Lord helps  
them that helps  
themselves."*

Loosing her mate after that many years obviously brought changes to Edna's life. She no longer had a companion to talk with on a daily basis, no one to help make decisions, and no one to take her places or go with her. All these things required making big adjustments. Since there were no children after the birth of a stillborn daughter in 1966, all their married life it was just the two of them, and they were always together. They enjoyed camping, traveling to different places, and searching for treasures at flea markets. The King George Fall Festivals provided opportunities for Lawrence to drive one of his restored antique automobiles with Edna sitting

by his side in her period dress and bonnet. Lawrence had owned two airplanes over the years and, when he'd say, "Come fly with me," she'd be there. They were active together at Shiloh from the time they joined until Lawrence was too ill to attend. A weaker person might have caved in with grief and despair, but Edna chooses to look at the glass half full instead of half empty. They had had many good years together, and for that she is thankful along with all the good memories they made together. As the mini-strokes took their toll on Lawrence's mind and body, he was not able to do any of the things they enjoyed. Edna stayed by his side night and day until she was unable to provide the care he needed and was forced to put him in a nursing home. She considers it a blessing that he did not have to stay there long before he passed on.

Since both Edna and Lawrence attended Montague Baptist Church in King George, they were acquainted long before they became a serious couple. It was in her sophomore year that Lawrence asked her for that first date. After they married, they lived across from the present King George Elementary School until construction was completed on the house Edna still lives in today. Having bought property in April 1952, they worked together building their home in 1953 and '54. When Edna couldn't help Lawrence do something, family members pitched in, but Lawrence and his bride did most of the work. That experience has served her well ever since. She is no stranger to tools and is not afraid to tackle a



Celebrating their 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

man's job if she thinks she can do it. After Lawrence died, her biggest man's job was ahead of her.

Most women in her situation would have turned that job over to a man, but not Miss Edna. She just rolled up her sleeves and matter-of-factly set to work to get nine acres of Lawrence's fifty-plus years' collection of all kinds of antique cars, tractors, engines, wagons, tools, and everything in between ready for auction. It took almost a year of hard labor to prepare for the sale, but she stuck with it where a younger person might have thrown in the towel after realizing what a monumental task lie ahead. Didn't I tell you looks could be deceiving? What muscle power she didn't have or wasn't supplied by family and friends, she hired. There are a few items that still need to go she says, but all in all, she has pretty much cleared her woods and surrounding property and has all the out buildings in good repair. Since she likes to keep things neat and tidy, it is not uncommon to see her pushing a lawn mower, riding her tractor, or doing any number of outside chores that you'd expect to see a man doing. Her looks really are deceiving.

I believe an accurate description of Miss Edna would have to include the words determined and self-driven. She is not one to sit back on her laurels and wish for things to happen. One of her mottos has always been, "The Lord helps them that helps themselves." For example, most people at Shiloh Baptist Church know Miss Edna as our organist. What most people don't know is that she is a self-taught musician. As a child she always wanted to play the piano, but the opportunity never presented itself. One day while she and some friends were exploring a vacant house, she spied a book of music terms that she quickly took possession of and still has. She studied that book from cover to cover and years later after she and Lawrence were married and got their first organ, she bought another book and taught herself to play three hymns. Shortly after that, Montague Church split, and the pianist left. That opened the door for Edna's music debut. She played piano at Montague for 14 years before she and Lawrence moved their membership to Shiloh. After she retired from the Commissioner of Revenue Office in July 1997, she began taking organ lessons at Jordan Kitts in Spotsylvania Mall. Over the years she has had music lessons from different trained teachers and began playing for Shiloh in August 1997 at the urging of former minister of music, Don West. In her own words, Edna affirms, "Music is something you have to accomplish yourself. It can't be given to you." Her love of music continues to give meaning to her life and adds

#### Down Memory Lane

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- ❑ On September 4, 1979, the following men were elected as deacons: Alex Novitiszki, Robert Meade, Lawrence Lee, and DeWitt Thorne.
- ❑ Representatives to the Rappahannock Association meeting in October 1981 were Lewis Howland, DeWitt Thorne, Chris Meade, Lawrence Lee, and Ernest Rose.
- ❑ In 1983, Lawrence Lee reported that the church bus was at Emmett Stephens garage for inspection of the exhaust system and the insurance agent had requested that all bills pertaining to bus maintenance be kept in the packet with the maintenance record.
- ❑ In 1985, Lawrence Lee was appointed to the Bus Committee. Edna Lee and Wilson Clare were appointed to the Teller Committee.
- ❑ On April 5, 1988, for the Easter season, the ladies of the WMU purchased a flower and also collected a love gift to give to Mrs. Carrie Richardson. Margie Rothrock and Lucille Rollins visited her and took the gifts a few days before she went home to be with her Lord.
- ❑ In the March 7, 1995, meeting, Lonnie Bowden reported that the missions organizations were working together to collect packets of seeds for Mozambique. The average attendance for Sunday School for February was 185. Rev. Warren Rollins would be invited to bring the morning message for Sunday Homecoming service on August 6. DeWitt Thorne, trustee, made a motion that the 1965 Dodge bus, which had been in use for a number of years, be sold for whatever can be gotten for it. Lawrence Lee will place the bus on his property with a "for sale" sign on it.
- ❑ As of 1998, Lawrence was still on the Bus Committee, and Edna continues to play the organ.

(from *Shiloh Baptist Church Minutes*,  
March 8, 1955, to December 31, 1963)

much to our Sunday morning worship hour.

While most of her work is confined to her home and church, there was a time when Edna worked in the public. Working one year as a teacher's aide, she left that to work in the reassessment office in the courthouse for a year before going to work in the Commissioner of Revenue Office. After 20 years of public work, it was time to retire, and now Miss Edna works harder than ever keeping up with all the chores at home. However, she does not believe in "all work and no play." Edna continues to enjoy flower arranging and gardening, feeding the birds, doing crafts, writing letters, and being a good neighbor. She and her neighbors look out for one another, and she is always on call if someone needs a ride to the doctor or some other favor. On the flip side, she knows that when she has a need, all she has to do is ask. Sewing is something else Edna enjoys and is considered an accomplished seamstress. Though she does not venture as far as she used to, travel is still one of her favorite pastimes. In her traveling days with Lawrence, they visited all the continental United States with the exception of the ones in New England.

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P.O. Box 232 · Jersey, VA 22481  
RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

**In the Spotlight**

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Today's travels are usually to see family in the Shenandoah Valley or former church members who've moved away. There is one special place in Broadway, Virginia that she visits regularly though, and that's the home of John Sellers. With the exception of the newer members, most Shiloh folk know John from his singing in the choir and Sunday school teaching days here at Shiloh. Edna and Lawrence, when they arrived at Shiloh, became fast friends with John and family, and today Edna considers John just as close as family.

Of the many things Miss Edna has to be thankful for, high on her list is her good health. At her age she knows she is blessed to be able to do the physical things she does. She continues to serve faithfully as secretary of our Sunday school class, sing in the choir and plans to play the organ in worship as long as she is able. Although her packaging is small, God put a whole lot of good stuff inside and she continues to share it as she brings honor and glory to Him. I'm truly thankful for the blessings of small packages that have come my way over the years, especially this one. ☺



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Shiloh Baptist Church, 13457 Kings Hwy, King George, VA 22485

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The Shiloh visitor is published monthly as an official communications medium for Shiloh Baptist Church. The deadline for submission is the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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**REACH                      BUILD                      RELEASE**

**PeaceMaking Church Bible Study  
(Helping Your Church Build a Culture of Peace)**

So how does our church begin the journey toward a Culture of Peace? The PeaceMaking Church bible study was created for that purpose. This bible study is designed to change the way people think about conflict and help churches on their journey. It utilizes three primary means of building biblical peacemaking into the very fiber of churches:

- Inspiring* the church through visionary leadership
- Teaching* the key biblical principles in small groups
- Embedding* a permanent peacemaking ministry

This bible study will be offered twice each week: Sundays, beginning on 2/1, at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesdays, beginning on 2/4, at 6:30 p.m. Join us for this important bible study. Contact Pastor Kube in the church office for additional details.

**Winter Discipleship Offering  
*Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God***

Is God real to you? Do you know HIM in a personal and intimate way? Do you recognize HIS voice? Do you see HIM at work around you?

If you are looking for more in your Christian experience, participate in this Study! But before you sign up, please pray. In addition, be aware of what you are signing up for. This "course" is thirteen weeks long. You will be expected to do daily assignments five times a week for anywhere from ½ to 1½ hours. Then you will be expected to meet for approximately 1½ hours every week with a group of fellow participants. The benefits of such a time commitment are eternal.

To find out more about this discipleship offering, contact Pastor Kube in the church office.

"In my opinion, *Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God* is the best discipleship course on the market." —Pastor Todd Kube

