

The Shiloh Visitor

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

A monthly newsletter from Shiloh Baptist Church

March 2010

Glorifying God by ... Reaching, Building, Serving

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*“Purify me with hyssop,
and I shall be clean;
Wash me, and I shall
be whiter than snow.”
Psalm 51:7*

DOWN MEMORY LANE



At the March 31, 1877,
church meeting,

The church proceeded to
organize the Sunday School
by the election of officers:
Samuel B. Hearn,
Superintendent; Phillip
Marshall, Assistant
Superintendent; Daniel
McDaniel, Secretary; and
Rush Marshall, Librarian.
They were given
instructions to open the
school and enter upon their
duties the 1st Sunday in
April 1877.

(from Shiloh Church (1876
-1905) book of minutes,
Virginia Baptist Historical
Society, University of
Richmond, Richmond,
Virginia, p. 56) &

Let It Snow!

As I look outside my office at another snowfall, the above passage from Psalm 51 leads me to reflect on how the snows have impacted our lives. These recent snows have brought out the best in Shiloh! I continue to hear how many of you have ministered to each other and our community by providing encouragement and checking to see that individuals are safe. As we have learned of needs, some of our men have responded by clearing snow for individuals, as well as our church campus. Others have assisted in other ways helping people weather the storms. Thank you for your ministry focus.

Concerning “weather related closings,” let me explain how decisions are made and information is disseminated. When weather looks treacherous I communicate with other leaders (Staff, Building and Grounds, Deacons, Sunday School, Board of Directors, and others) to gain consensus on the decision to make. This follows the church’s new strategy of working with a team concept. Once a decision is made local radio stations are contacted, our website is updated, an email is sent to everyone in our data base, our telephone message is revised and leaders are encouraged to contact others. Safety is the top priority of this decision process. Update us where we can improve for future evaluation.

While these recent snowfalls have kept us from mutually gathering at our church campus, they have not prevented us from worshipping our Lord. Families and individuals worshipping in their homes have been an example of the church - Shiloh honoring the God of our Salvation.

Finally, Psalm 51 is a “sinner’s prayer.” Join with me as we look at the beauty of the snow that we are privileged to enjoy and let the Psalmist lead us to seek a closer relationship with God. May Christ’s cleansing, forgiving spirit lead us to closer relationships with each other, as we *Reach, Build, and Serve*.

Faithfully, Mike

In the Spotlight...

Earlene Jessee

by Kerry Childers



When Earlene was getting ready to start first grade, her father was called to the ministry; he resigned his job as an engineer. One of her earlier memories during this time was that they were moving so he could go to seminary; she thought they were going to the cemetery. She cried. She started first grade the same day as his first day of seminary. He became a church planter and started a mission church under First Baptist Church in Kingsport, Tennessee. This is Gravely Baptist Church now. The foundational leaders at Gravely today are the young men and women who came to the outreach events as kids. In fact, they are the same ones who threw firecrackers in the windows. Her father invited them in. Unfortunately, he passed away in the peak of his ministry from a heart attack at 47. Earlene was in high school.

Earlene went to college to work in the mission field. It was during this time that she met Richard Teaster, a Russian

linguist and gifted musician. He was working for the CIA at this time. They fell in love and were married. He went to seminary and committed his life to working with Russian-speaking people. At 31, he became ill from a swine flu vaccine and died within 3 weeks. They had a 7 month old and a 3 year old. Earlene felt that God had made a huge mistake. Later on in her journey, she realized that God had given her strength and life experiences to help others in

... Earlene felt that God had made a huge mistake.

grief and pain. She began to serve Christ through becoming the minister of music and children's worship leader. She also went into medical management. At that time, she volunteered to lead a singles ministry.

Mike Jessee showed up at her church when the children

were in their pre-teens; he became the outreach leader in the class and was a prominent businessman in the church. They had many long talks as they got to know each other and began dating. They had many discussions about God's call in his life. Eventually, they married; her children, who were 11 and 14, gave her away. Within 3 months, Mike was leaving for seminary. Earlene joined him there, living only three blocks away from where she lived before.

When they moved to Virginia, the Virginia Baptists contacted her and asked her to work as a consultant in language missions. This led to her becoming a WMU consultant and then its Executive Director in 1992, where she served all churches of Virginia Baptists, plus 15 foreign countries and Southern Baptists throughout the United States. In 2007, she retired to focus on the local ministry. She still does some consulting through MASTER, Inc. (Missions And Stewardship Transformational Equipping Resources).

Mike's bond is so strong with her children that Earlene feels that when Mike goes to heaven, he will be greeted by their father, who will thank him for raising his children. When Earlene's daughter, Kristin, had her first child, she refused to go into labor until Mike could get there. As soon as the baby was born, she handed the baby to Mike. Her reasoning – she wanted him to see what it was like to have a baby as he had been a great father to her. ☪

Music Notes

by Sarah Snow, Minister of Music



Can you just imagine green grass? As I write this, it has been at least 2 weeks since I have seen green grass! Without question, the beautiful drifts of snow will soon be gone and spring will arrive! We will soon see green grass!

Rehearsals have begun for the Easter Cantata and the Children's Musical!

The Easter Cantata this year is *Rise Again!* The program is an uplifting and joyous arrangement of Easter Hymns and Songs! The service will have narration and communion. As I sit at my piano and practice, I just can't help tapping my toes and swaying to the brilliant compilation of music! What a treasure it is to learn new music! The gifts of these amazing composers are truly immeasurable! April 4, 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary.

The children have started rehearsing for their Spring Musical! This year, they are putting on the *show Nic At Night*. It is the story of Nicodemus from the Bible. Nicodemus wants to know more about Jesus. He finds him at night and learns how Jesus is our Savior. **THE SON IS RISEN!** The children will sing and act and maybe even dance a little! April 18, 11 a.m. in the Family Life Center.

I really enjoy reading the history of many hymns. I have two books on my shelf that I frequently look through. They are the "Then Sings My Soul" Book 1 & Book 2. They both have 150 of the world's greatest hymn stories. I happened to notice that one book included the song "Can The Circle Be Unbroken." That is a song that is near to my heart. I have fond memories of running in circles as a child around the living room as my father sang and played the guitar to that song! My brother and I would run and run around as he played: "Will the circle be unbroken, By and by, Lord, by and by? In a better home awaiting, In the sky, in the sky?"

Most people attribute the song to the Carter family in the 1930's but the words were written by a London Bible teacher named Ada Ruth Habershon. She was noticed by D.L. Moody and Ira Sankey as they toured England in 1884 and asked her if she would come and teach in the U.S. She passed away in 1918 after a full life as a teacher and composer. Her hymns are still sung around the world! ☺



Children & Youth

by Mark Morgan

Is it spring yet? I don't know about you, but I have had enough snow! It will be heating up around Shiloh, so stay up to date with what is going on by checking out the church calendar.

HOWDY PARTNER! VBS is coming soon! (June 21-25) We will have a VBS Info/sign-up booth on Sunday, **March 7th**, so be sure to mosey on over and check us out.

YOUTH

"Adult Youth Night" is **March 7th** from 5-7 p.m. Adults, come relive the days of your youth! We will have fellowship, games, and Bible lesson. This special event is put on by the Shiloh youth. Childcare will be provided. Please sign up on the board outside the sanctuary.

Youth Conference—"A Walk With Christ to the Cross" The youth will be attending a conference on **March 12-13**. Tickets have already been ordered, but there may still be room if you didn't sign up.

Missions Trip to Buffalo, NY. We have scheduled our trip for **July 4-10** in Buffalo, NY. There may be a spot for you if you didn't sign up. Check with me.

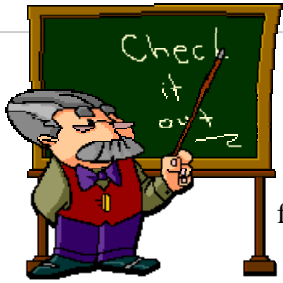
CHILDREN

Summer Camp—Check out Camp Piankatank at www.campiankatank.org. Your child will love the swimming, canoeing, rock wall climbing, crafts, games, ropes course, worship, and Bible lessons. You can register your child online and also apply for financial assistance if needed.

Easter Eggstravaganza is **April 3rd** from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The children will enjoy making crafts, listening to a Bible lesson, and gathering eggs filled with candy! Lunch will be provided. ☺



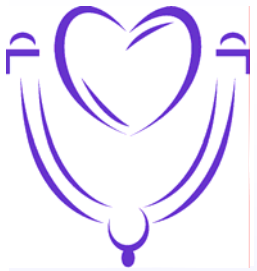
P.O. Box 232 · Jersey, VA 22481
 RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED



CHECK IT OUT!!!

The library has received many generous donations this past month. These included the following complete sets of Beverly Lewis books: *Abram's Daughters*, *Annie's People*,

Heritage of Lancaster County, and *Courtship of Nelly Fisher* from Louise Brown, Gail Davis' mother. Mrs. Brown has also donated many other individual books by favorite authors like Jeanette Oke and Cindy Woodsmall. Gloria Smith donated *The Bible* on cassette tapes. Pam Brinklow donated two Christian inspired workout DVDs plus a DVD *Love and Respect* and a Linda Windsor book. Also available to view in the library is the photo album of *The Ornament* from Luke and Cindy Miller. Thank you to all of the donors listed above for their generosity. ☺



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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 15th of each month.

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REACHING	BUILDING	SERVING
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Easter Cantata—April 3

Join us for an inspiring time of worship and music as we present *Rise Again!* - an Easter cantata. Invite your family, friends, neighbors, and co-workers to our 11 a.m. worship service on Sunday, April 3rd.

Children's Musical—April 18

You are going to really enjoy the Bible story of Nicodemus set as a mystery plan musical presented by the children of Shiloh. Performance is scheduled for Sunday, April 18th in the Family Life Center.

Save the Date!!!
Sunday, May 2, 2010

“Building a Bridge To the Future”

