

# Temple News

Monthly Newsletter

Solomon's Temple Church

[www.solomonstemplechurch.net](http://www.solomonstemplechurch.net)



## December 2016

### Twas the Night before Jesus Came

Twas the night before Jesus came and all through the house not a person was praying, not one in the house. The Bibles were lain on the shelf without care in hopes that Jesus would not come there. The children were dressing to crawl into bed not once ever kneeling or bowing a head. And Mom in her rocker with baby on lap was watching the late show while I took a nap. When out of the east there arose such a clatter I sprang to my feet to see what was the matter. Away to the window I made a mad dash pulled open the curtains and threw up the sash. When what to my wondering eyes should appear but angels proclaiming that Jesus was here. With a light like the sun sending forth a bright ray I knew in a moment that this must be The Day!! The light of His face made me cover my head. It was Jesus returning just like He said! And though I possessed worldly wisdom and wealth, I cried when I saw Him in spite of myself. In the book of life which He held in His hand was written the name of every saved man. He spoke not a word as He searched for my name. When He said "It's not here" my head hung in shame. The people whose names had been written with love he gathered to take to His Father above. With those who were ready He rose without sound while all of the rest were left standing around. I fell to my knees but it was too late I had waited too long and thus sealed my fate. I stood and I cried as they rose out of sight Oh, if only I had been ready tonight! In the words of this poem the meaning is clear. The coming of Jesus is drawing so near. There's only one life and when it comes the last call we'll find that the Bible was true after all.

May all the sweet magic  
Of Christmas conspire  
To gladden your hearts  
And fill every desire.



Season Greetings from

Pastor K. D. & Leading Lady E. R. Shivers







## “The True Message of Christmas” By: Faye Byrd



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“Rejoice, Rejoice Emmanuel has come to thee O Israel.” The True Message of Christmas is found in Luke’s Gospel, chapter two, in the fifteenth verse. There we have the account of Jesus’ birth. In the following Scripture, we have the shepherds as they go to Bethlehem. In the True Message of Christmas, the shepherds came to see this thing the angels said had come to pass, “That unto you is born in the City of David, a Savior which is Christ the Lord.” They came and they saw, then went forth glorifying and praising God, telling others what they had seen and heard.

Man’s praise and worship of God for the revelation of His glory that night has not ceased. Neither the skeptic’s doubt; the mocker’s scorn; the profession’s criticisms; the public’s apathy; crowd’s ridicule; the pagan’s blasphemy; the executioner’s sword; the Devil’s lies, have diminished the hope that was born that night. Nor has it dimmed the glorious dawn of His glory that continues to radiate down through the years and envelopes your heart and mine.

The True Message of Christmas is that Eternal God came to earth in the form of man in order to save His own creation. It was necessary because fallen man is mired in sin, and there is no remission of sin without the shedding of blood. In order to show that this tiny babe in swaddling clothes came for a purpose, the manger and the cross must be seen together. He came to die for your sins, my sins, and for the sins of the whole world. The small infant’s hands that were later nailed to a rugged wooden cross are the hands that so often lovingly reach down and pick us up during the difficulties of life. The One we see in the manger is fully God who came to earth to die so that you and I could have forgiveness of our sins, so that we would receive the greatest gift of all.

Your best Christmas comes not from the gaily-wrapped presents under the Christmas tree, but from the One wrapped in swaddling clothes lying in a wooden manger in the town of Bethlehem, the One who’s birthday we celebrate. 2 Corinthians 2:15: "Thanks be to God for His indescribable gift." Bethlehem’s manger crib bound a lost world to a loving God. When you see a manger scene and the baby, think beyond the babe, to His reason for coming. Make the effort to remember the real message of Christmas and His undying love for you, and remember His hands. So again, "Rejoice, Rejoice for God has come to us."



## Listening Prayer By Peola Hicks



I make a point to listen while I pray, to pause every now and then to hear God’s reassurance. You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. (Isaiah 26:3)

The simplest definition of prayer is that we are talking to God. But that leaves out one important element: listening to God. If I am only talking and not listening, I often only hear my own problems. That can keep the mind cluttered with worry. This happens unless I make a point to listen while I pray, to pause every now and then to hear God’s reassurance that He is with me. The question, of course, is whether or not God says anything in response to the prayers I send up. I would say that God does speak to us, and not just when we are actually praying or talking to him. So we return to the question: Are we listening? The prophet Isaiah tells us that God will keep us in perfect peace when our minds are focused on the Lord. When the mind is listening to the overwhelming evidence that tells us how difficult life is, we are filled with worry. We then begin to imagine scenarios that suggest chaotic existence rather than peace. There is a solution to the worried mind, and it is found in God’s word.

### Prayer points for listening to God:

- Be aware of restlessness in your thoughts.
- Write down some Scriptures (like Isaiah 26:3, Proverbs 12:26 and Philippians 4:6-8).
- Make it a regular habit to meditate upon the Scriptures.
- Pray without ceasing.



**God bless you!**





# December Kingdom Schedule



## December Scriptures

12/4 Luke 1:30-35  
 12/11 Matthew 1:18-25  
 12/18 Luke 1:39-45  
 12/25 Luke 2:1-6



## Worship Leaders Schedule

12/4 Elder Margaret Shivers-Thomas  
 12/11 Anthony Gray Jr.  
 12/18 Elder Sarah Hatton  
 12/25 Elder Edith Shivers

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## Welcome Schedule

12/4 Sis. Sylvia Gundy  
 12/11 Shagan Gatewood (son)  
 12/18 Sis. Sarah Gatewood  
 12/25 Sis. Cynthia Watson

## Servant Leaders Schedule

12/4 Sis. Shirley Haskins  
 12/11 Bro. James Green Sr.  
 12/18 Sis. Jackie Ruffin  
 12/25 Sis. Wendy Green



Door Opener  
 Bro. Earl Moton



Communion Bowls  
 Sis. Lucy Watkins  
 Sis. Phyllis Duck



## December 2016 CID Teachers Schedule



**December 6<sup>th</sup>** **Adult Teacher:** Sis. Sylvia Gundy | Luke 1:39-56 | *"The Affirmation of the Promise"*

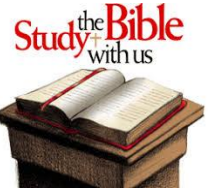
**December 13<sup>th</sup>** **Adult Teacher:** Minister Cynthia Edwards | Luke 1:8-20 | *"The Forerunner of the Savior"*

**December 20<sup>th</sup>** **NO CID:** Luke 2:8-20 | *"The Savior has Arrived"*

**December 27<sup>th</sup>** **NO CID:** Psalm 33:19 | *"Praise God for Creation"*



Youth Teacher for the Month of December  
 Elder Margaret Shivers-Thomas



Explanation of the lesson can be found on our website [solomonstemplechurch.net](http://solomonstemplechurch.net)

## New to Solomon's Temple?



First of all **WELCOME!** We are so pleased that you have come to visit our church. Whether you are just inquiring about our church, a new visitor, or simply want to see if Solomon's Temple is the right fit for you and your family, we are grateful to have you among us. We hope you will find your spiritual home here. Here at Solomon's Temple, we offer many exciting ministries to assist in your daily walk.

Solomon's Temple holds New Disciple Orientation sessions that can provide information about our church, what we offer and what to expect from your church family. If you have any questions, please contact **Elder Sarah Hatton, Bro. James Green Sr.** or **Elder Wayne Hatton.**

## CHRISTMAS QUOTES

“Christmas is the season of joy, of holiday greetings exchanged, of gift-giving, and of families united.”

*Norman Vincent Peale*

“Christmas is most truly Christmas when we celebrate it by giving the light of love to those who need it most.”

*Ruth Carter Stapleton*

“Christmas is not just a time for festivity and merry making. It is more than that. It is a time for the contemplation of eternal things. The Christmas spirit is a spirit of giving and forgiving.”

*J. C. Penney*

The best of all gifts around any Christmas tree: the presence of a happy family all wrapped up in each other.”

*Burton Hillis*

“Bless us Lord, this Christmas, with quietness of mind; teach us to be patient and always to be kind.”

*Helen Steiner Rice*

Christmas, my child, is love in action.”

*Dale Evans*

“Good news from heaven the angels bring, glad tidings to the earth they sing: to us this day a child is given, to crown us with the joy of heaven.”

*Martin Luther*

## December Birthdays

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Quenten Turner  
Kimesia Burrell  
Dana Cary  
Mor'Netra Johnson  
Christian Turner  
Melvin Turner Sr.

December 9<sup>th</sup>  
December 10<sup>th</sup>  
December 20<sup>th</sup>  
December 24<sup>th</sup>  
December 24<sup>th</sup>  
December 26<sup>th</sup>



## December Anniversaries

### Happy Anniversary



Sherman & Shirley Haskins

December 21<sup>st</sup>



*An anniversary is a time to celebrate the joys of today, the memories of yesterday and the hopes of tomorrow.*

## Newsletter Submissions



Do you know someone who is doing great things in the community, school, or church? Nominate them to be the Solomonite of the Month. This person can be a youth or an adult. Don't forget to recognize those celebrating an anniversary, graduation (from high school, college, or any other), or special occasion.

We also want to know about those who have made the honor roll. Let's not forget baby announcements, bible humor or recipes.

If you have a story or idea that you would like to incorporate into the newsletter, forward the story to [stsecretary1@gmail.com](mailto:stsecretary1@gmail.com) or leave the idea on the secretary's desk.





## Schedule of Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT
12/1/16	6:00pm	Praise Team rehearsal
12/1/16	7:00pm	Mass Choir rehearsal
12/3/16	5:00pm	Pastor Shivers will speak on a service at Rev. Michael Winfree's church in Richmond
<b>12/4/16</b>		<b>2017 Accept/Decline forms are due</b>
12/5/16	7:00pm	Solomon's Council will meet
12/6/16	6:30pm/7:15pm	CID Session/Bible Study
12/8/16	6:00pm	Outreach Ministry will meet
12/8/16	7:00pm	Sons of Solomon rehearsal
12/11/16	3:00pm	Elder Sarah Hatton will preach at Rising Star Christian Church, 2514 Roanoke Ave., Newport News for Women's Day service
12/12/16	7:00pm	Solomon's Council will meet
12/13/16	9:00am	Minister Cynthia Edwards will speak at House of Judah Deliverance, 3806 Roanoke Ave., Newport News 23607 for their monthly morning breakfast
12/13/16	6:30pm/7:15pm	CID Session/Bible Study
12/15/16	6:30pm	Youth Choir rehearsal
12/18/16	12:00pm	Solomon's Temple Christmas Party at the chapel
12/20/16		No CID Session/Bible Study
12/22/16		No Choir rehearsal
<b>12/24/16</b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>Christmas Eve</b>
<b>12/25/16</b>	<b>All Day</b>	<b>Christmas Day/Happy Birthday Jesus!</b>
12/27/16		No CID Session/Bible Study
12/29/16		No Choir rehearsal
12/31/16	7:00pm-9:00pm	New Year's Eve service at the chapel - Theme: "I Pray We All Be Ready"

### Choir Rehearsal Schedule for the Month of December

#### Thursday before the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

6:00pm Praise Team  
7:00pm Mass Choir

#### Thursday before the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday

6:30pm Youth Choir



#### Thursday before the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday

7:00pm Sons of Solomon

#### Thursday before the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday

**NO CHOIR REHEARSAL**

### Christmas Humor

- Q. What happened when the snowwoman got angry at the snowman?  
A. She gave him the cold shoulder.
- Q. What did the reindeer say before launching into his comedy routine?  
A. This will sleigh you.
- Q. Why did Santa have only eight reindeer last Christmas?  
A. Comet stayed home to clean the sink.





# December 2016



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1. 6:00pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:00pm Mass Choir rehearsal	2.	3. 5:00pm Pastor Shivers will speak on a service at Rev. Michael Winfree's church in Richmond
4. 2017 Accept/ Decline forms are due	5. 7:00pm Solomon's Council will meet	6. 6:30pm CID session 7:15pm Bible Study	7.	8. 6:00pm Outreach Ministry meeting 7:00pm Sons of Solomon rehearsal	9. Quentin Turner	10. Kinnesia Burrell
11. 3:00pm Elder Sarah Hatton preach at Rising Star Christian Church	12. 7:00pm Solomon's Council will meet	13. 9:00am Min. Cynthia Edwards will speak at House of Judah Deliverance 6:30pm CID session 7:15pm Bible Study	14.	15. 6:30pm Youth Choir rehearsal	16.	17.
18. 12:00pm Solomon Temple Christmas Party	19.	20. Dana Cary No CID/Bible Study	21. Happy Anniversary Sherman & Shirley Haskins First Day of Winter	22. No Choir rehearsal	23.	24. Mor'Neira Johnson Christian Turner <b>Christmas Eve</b>
25. <b>Christmas Day</b> Happy Birthday Jesus!	26. Melvin Turner Sr.	27. No CID/Bible Study	28.	29. No Choir rehearsal	30.	31. 7:00pm-9:00pm New Year's Eve service at the chapel



**2016 Theme:**  
**Modeling Kingdom Concepts  
Through Power, Love and Sound Mind.**







Just sprinkle on your lawn at night  
The moon will make it sparkle bright  
As Santa's reindeer fly and roam  
This will guide them to your home.

**OUTREACH**

Solomon's Temple Outreach Ministry Is In Full Effect!

Please let us know if anyone is in the hospital, in-outpatient surgeries and death in the family or any other life changing event (medical or death). We have **"Care Teams"** for each month that is willing and ready to contact you. We love our church family and we believe love is not what it says - it's what it does.

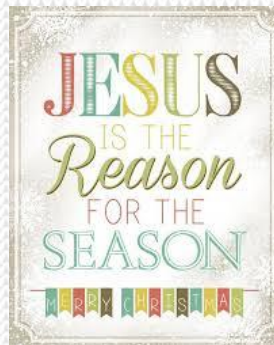
**CARE TEAM FOR THE MONTH**

- Sis. Hope Parker
- Sis. Alice Day
- Sis. Kathy Greene

Please let the church administrator know of any disciples' address or phone number change!  
Thank You!

"Christmas is forever, not for just one day,  
for loving, sharing, giving, are not to put away  
like bells and lights and tinsel, in some box upon a shelf.  
The good you do for others is good you do yourself."  
Norman Wesley Brooks, "Let Every Day Be Christmas"

"I heard the bells on Christmas Day  
Their old, familiar carols play,  
And wild and sweet  
The words repeat  
Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"  
Henry Wadsworth Longfellow



**PRAYER LIST**

- Father John Shivers
- Sis. Sonjia Moore
- Sis. Vernell Brown
- Sis. Tammy Rawls
- Sis. Tami Drew
- Sis. Vernell Wrenn
- Bro. James Green Sr.
- Sis. Connie Payne
- Sis. Lonnie Batten
- Sis. Mary Diggs
- Sis. Mary Cornick
- Sis. Frances Wells-Robertson
- Sis. Marion Smith
- Sis. Phyllis Wiggins
- Sis. Ruby Clarke
- Sis. Tamara Jones
- Sis. Darnelle Jefferson
- Sis. Krystle Murphy
- Holmes & Taylor Family



If there are any names that need to be added to the list, let the church administrator know. Thank You.





## The Meaning of '12 Days of Christmas'

The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.

Two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.

Three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.

The four calling birds were the four gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.

The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.

Seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit: Prophecy, Serving, Teaching, Exhortation, Contribution, Leadership, and Mercy.

The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.

Nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, Kindness, Goodness, Faithfulness, Gentleness, and Self Control.

The ten lords a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.

The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.

The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Apostles' Creed.

*May your **home** be warm, your **holidays** grand, & may your **heart** be held gently in the Lord's hands*



Say Hello to our newest disciple, **Christopher Harper**. He completed his New Disciples classes and was presented his certificate on Sunday, November 27, 2016.



**The Blessings of Peace  
The Beauty of Hope  
The Spirit of Love  
The Comfort of Faith  
May these be your gifts  
this Christmas Season.**



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

## CONGRATULATIONS

*Jayla Gray* was inducted into Jr. Beta and made the honor roll this term.

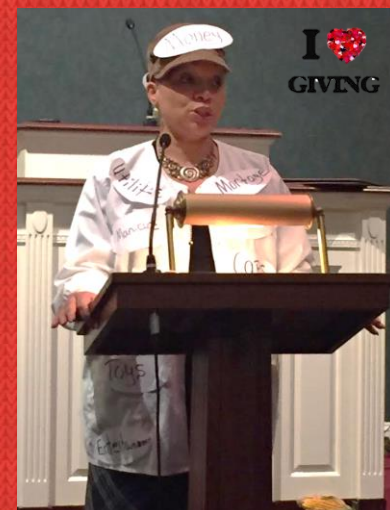
*Imani Gray* has made the principal's list with straight A's.

The following Youth Disciples made the Smithfield JV and Varsity Basketball Teams.

Anthony Gray Jr.  
Jayla Gray  
Nikia Robertson  
Destiny Shivers



Pictured below:  
Leading Lady Shivers  
teaching Bible Study on  
"Kingdom Giving".



## Verse of the Month

**1 John 4:16**

"And we have known and believed the love that God hath to us. God is love; and he that dwelleth in love dwelleth in God, and God in him."

**Always Remember: The greatest gift you ever own is not found in the shops or under your Christmas tree. It is found in the hearts of your family and your true friends.**