

MERRY CHRISTMAS



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

Monthly Newsletter of Solomon's Temple

www.solomons-templechurch.org

Four Ways to Make Your Christmas Happy... and Holy!

Celebrate the birth of Jesus using these tips drawn from Scripture. *By Elizabeth Peale Allen*

Christmas is a season when, ideally, our spirits soar and our hearts expand. It's an opportunity to celebrate—with parties, decorations, gifts, acts of love and special worship services. But, unfortunately, many of us get caught up in the rush and the pressure of the holiday season. When that happens, Christmas can seem more like a mad dash to the finish line than the reverent, expectant time it should be. Try these ideas to keep your Christmas happy and holy:

1. Discover the positive power of “no.”

It's easy to find yourself getting overextended (even with good activities!) and losing sight of your true priorities. So this year, why not be more mindful about what you commit to? Learn the art of saying “no” and making careful, prayerful choices when it comes to your time and energy. “Walk in wisdom... redeeming the time” (Colossians 4:5).

2. Make someone else merry.

You probably won't have to look very far this year to find someone who could use a little kindness and generosity. A lonely widow, a single mother, a local inmate. Helping to make someone else's Christmas happy is sure to make you feel great, too. “Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me” (Matthew 25:40).

3. Wait in wonder.

It's hard to truly wait, to hope expectantly, when you are on the move. Advent is a time to commit to the wonder, to marvel at the coming of Christ into our world. Set aside some time to sit quietly, opening your mind and heart to this miracle. “Be still, and know that I am God” (Psalm 46:10).

4. De-stress with the best book in the world.

Here are some Bible verses to commit to memory and repeat whenever you begin to feel tense.

- “Peace I leave with you, my peace I give to you” (John 14:27).
- “And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus” (Philippians 4:7).
- “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).

This Christmas, say “yes” to what's really important to you and a polite “no” to everything else. Look for ways to show kindness to people who need it. Remind yourself and your loved ones daily of the real reason why we celebrate: Christ has come to live among us. Hallelujah!

DECEMBER 2014



10 Great Bible Prayers



By Bob Hostetler

If you pray the [Lord's Prayer](#), you already pray at least one of the [prayers](#) found in the Bible. But there are many that can provide help when you're not sure what to pray.

1. A Prayer of Surrender

"Nevertheless, not as I will, but as You will." ([Matthew 26:39, ESV](#))

2. A Prayer for Strength, Faith and Love

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, [asking] that according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

([Ephesians 3:14-19, ESV](#))

3. A Prayer for Enlightenment

We ask God to give you complete knowledge of His will and to give you spiritual wisdom and understanding. Then the way you live will always honor and please the Lord, and your lives will produce every kind of good fruit. All the

while, you will grow as you learn to know God better and better. We also pray that you will be strengthened with all His glorious power so you will have all the endurance and patience you need. May you be filled with joy, always thanking the Father.

([Colossians 1:9-12, NLT](#))

4. A Prayer for Understanding and Favor

If it is true that you look favorably on me, let me know your ways so I may understand you more fully and continue to enjoy your favor.

([Exodus 33:13, NLT](#))

5. A Prayer for Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

([Numbers 6:24-26, ESV](#))

6. A Prayer for Influence and Protection

Oh, that You would bless me and expand my territory! Please be with me in all that I do, and keep me from all trouble and pain!

([1 Chronicles 4:10, NLT](#))

7. A Prayer of Repentance

Purify me from my sins, and I will be clean; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow...Create in me a clean heart, O God, Renew a loyal spirit within me. Do not banish me from your presence, and don't

take your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and make me willing to obey you. ([Psalm 51:7, 10-12, NLT](#))

8. A Prayer for Revival

God, I've heard what our ancestors say about You, and I'm stopped in my tracks, down on my knees. Do among us what You did among them. Work among us as you worked among them. ([Habakkuk 3:2, The Message](#))

9. A Prayer for Mercy

God, be merciful to me, a sinner. ([Luke 18:13, ESV](#))

10. A Prayer for Boldness

Give us, your servants, great boldness in preaching Your word. Stretch out Your hand with healing power; may miraculous signs and wonders be done through the name of Your holy servant Jesus.

([Acts 4:29-30, NLT](#))

These and many other Bible prayers make it easier to pray according to God's will. They can help you express yourself when words fail. And they can simultaneously enrich your knowledge of the Bible, confidence in prayer and sensitivity to the Spirit of God as you pray.



The Birth of Jesus



While Mary was still engaged to Joseph, she miraculously became pregnant through the Holy Spirit, as foretold to her by the angel. When Mary told Joseph she was pregnant, he had every right to feel disgraced. He knew the child was not his own, and Mary's apparent unfaithfulness carried a grave social stigma. Joseph not only had the right to divorce Mary, under Jewish law she could be put to death by stoning. Although Joseph's initial reaction was to break the engagement, the appropriate thing for a righteous man to do, he treated Mary with extreme kindness. He did not want to cause her further shame, so he decided to act quietly. But God sent an angel to Joseph in a dream to verify Mary's story and reassure him that his marriage to her was God's will. The angel explained that the child within Mary was conceived by the Holy Spirit, that his name would be Jesus and that he was the Messiah, God with us. When Joseph woke from his dream, he willingly obeyed God and took Mary home to be his wife, in spite of the public humiliation he would face. Perhaps this noble quality is one of the reasons God chose him to be the Messiah's earthly father. Joseph too must have wondered in awe as he remembered the words found in Isaiah 7:14, "Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel." At that time, Caesar Augustus decreed that a census be taken, and every person in the entire Roman world had to go to his own town to register. Joseph, being of the line of David, was required to go to Bethlehem to register with Mary. While in Bethlehem, Mary gave birth to Jesus. Probably due to the census, the inn was too crowded, and Mary gave birth in a crude stable. She wrapped the baby in cloths and placed him in a manger.



DECEMBER KINGDOM SCHEDULE



Scripture and Welcome

- 12/07 Bro. James Green Sr. (Luke 24:30-35)
Sis. Alice Day (welcome)
- 12/14 Bryce Williams (Matthew 2:1-5)
Christian Turner (welcome)
- 12/21 Bro. Theodore Gundy (Luke 2:15-20)
Sis. Vernessa Black (welcome)
- 12/28 Sis. Dana Cary (1 Corinthians 1:4-9)
Sis. Tammy Rawls (welcome)

Servant Leader Schedule

- 12/07 Sis. Lucy Watkins
12/14 Bro. James Green Sr.
12/21 Sis. Shirley Haskins
12/28 Sis. Wendy Green

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Worship Leader Schedule

- 12/07 Elder Sarah Hatton
12/14 Bro. James Green Sr.
12/21 Elder Karen Lee
12/28 Elder Margaret Shivers-Thomas

Door Opener

Bro. Ray Holmes

Communion Bowls

Sis. Shirley Haskins
Sis. Wendy Green



This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me

December Teachers Schedule

ADULT TEACHERS

- 12-02 Elder Edith Shivers (12-07) | "Worship Christ's Majesty" | Hebrews 1:1-9
- 12-09 Elder Wayne Hatton (12-14) | "Make A Joyful Noise" | Psalm 95:1-7a
- 12-16 NO CID (12-21) "Give Glory To God" | Luke 2:8-20
- 12-23 NO CID (12-28) "Worship God's Son" | Matthew 14:22-36
- 12-30 NO CID (01-04-2015) "Jesus' Model For Prayer" | Luke 11:1-13



YOUTH TEACHER

Sis. Shirley Haskins



Explanation of the lesson can be found on [our website.solomons-templechurch.org](http://our.website.solomons-templechurch.org)

Additional Study Help: www.studylight.org www.biblestudytools.com

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 **Brother James Green, Sr.** or **Sister Turekia White.**

December Birthdays

If your birthday is missing from the list or incorrect, let the office know.

Happy Birthday

Quenton Turner
Kimesia Burrell
Michael Wellons
Dana Cary
Walter Chapman
Christian Turner
Mor'Netra Johnson
Melvin Turner Sr.

December 9th
December 10th
December 11th
December 20th
December 21st
December 24th
December 24th
December 26th



"POINTS TO PONDER"

Somehow, not only for Christmas, but all the long year through, The joy that you give to others, Is the joy that comes back to you.
~John Greenleaf Whittier

God sent a star to light the night for The Way, The Truth, The Life – His Son. He sent the Light of Life to prove His heart so we would invite His Son into our own. God has given us all the light we'll ever need to find peace on earth, good will to men.
~Pamela F. Dowd

Where there is faith, there is love; Where there is love, there is peace; Where there is peace, there is God; And where there is God; there is no need.
~Leo Tolstoy

GIVE THE FOLLOWING GIFTS:

To your enemy
...forgiveness
To your opponent
.....tolerance
To a friend.....your heart
To a customer.....service
To all men.....charity
To every child
.....a good example
To yourself.....respect
~Author Unknown



Newsletter Submissions

Do you know someone who is doing great things in the community, school, or church? Nominate them to be the Outstanding Disciple 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 or leave the idea on the secretary's desk.



MERRY CHRISTMAS

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.

DECEMBER CARE TEAM

Sis. Kathy Greene & Elder Margaret S. Thomas

SOLOMONITE SPOTLIGHT



December Solomonite Spotlight is Hilja Diggs-Hall and Mercedi Brown. They are mother and daughter. Hilja is a disciple of the Women's Ministry and Usher Ministry. Mercedi is a disciple of the Youth Ministry. They are also the daughter and granddaughter of Ms. Mary Diggs. Hilja is all smiles as she looks at her daughter Mercedi. **Solomon's Temple** would like to congratulate Hilja and Mercedi for being this month's "Solomonite Spotlight".

WE LOVE YOU!

Will YOU be the Next "Solomonite of the Month"?

Lifting You Up In Prayer

- Bro. John Shivers
- Bro. Walter Chapman
- Sis. Ruby Clarke
- Sis. Tammy Rawls
- Bro. Michael Wellons
- Sis. Vernell Brown
- Sis. Connie Payne
- Sis. Mary Diggs
- Sis. Phyllis Wiggins
- Sis. Sonjia Moore
- Sis. Arlene Langhorne
- Bro. Earl Moton
- Sis. Jowanda Smith-Hawkins
- Minister Cynthia Edwards
- Sis. Danielle Seaborn



"In our weakness, God will be our strength. Keep believing, Healing is on its way"

"And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness." (II Corinthians 12:9)

Please remember to pray for, call or visit those who are sick, shut-in or bereaved and the Mothers and Father of our Church.

If there are any names that need to be added to the list, please let the Church Administrator know. Thanks.

December *Merry Christmas*

Schedule of Events



IMPORTANT NOTE: ALL INFORMATION TO BE ADDED TO THE TEMPLE NEWS FOR THE MONTH NEED TO BE GIVEN TO THE CHURCH ADMINISTRATOR NO LATER THAN THE 3RD TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

DATE	TIME	EVENT
12/2/14	6:30pm/7:15pm	CID Session/Bible Study
12/4/14	6:00pm	Praise Team rehearsal
12/4/14	7:00pm	Mass Choir
12/7/14		2015 ACCEPT/DECLINE FORMS DUE
12/8/14	6:00pm	Levite Ministry will meet
12/8/14	6:30pm	Assembly of Servants will meet
12/8/14	7:30pm	Solomon's Council will meet
12/9/14	6:00pm	Outreach Ministry will meet
12/9/14	6:30pm/7:15pm	CID Session/Bible Study
12/11/14	7:00pm	Sons of Solomon rehearsal
12/14/14	Morning service	Baby Dedication – Kori Marie Smith, daughter of Marcus & Jessica Smith
12/14/14	12:00pm	Youth Christmas Gala
12/15/14	7:00pm	Solomon's Council will meet
12/18/14	7:00pm	Mass Choir rehearsal
12/20/14	6:00pm	Couple Ministry Christmas Party @ Ruritan Club on Rte. 258
12/21/14	3:00pm	Christmas Celebration
12/21/14	ALL DAY	HAPPY ANNIVERSARY SHERMAN & SHIRLEY HASKINS 
12/24/14	ALL DAY	CHRISTMAS EVE
12/25/14	ALL DAY	CHRISTMAS DAY – HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS!!
12/31/14	ALL DAY	NEW YEAR'S EVE
12/31/14	10:00pm	New Year's Eve service at the chapel



TRIBE LEADERS: Building Fund Contributions of \$500 due December 28, 2014.



Choir Rehearsal Schedule



Thursday before 1st Sunday
6:00pm – Praise Team
7:00pm – Mass Choir

Thursday before 2nd Sunday
7:00pm – Sons of Solomon

Thursday before 3rd Sunday
6:30pm – Youth Choir

Thursday before 4th Sunday
6:00pm – Praise Team
7:00pm – Joyful Voices



Merry Christmas

December 2014



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1.	2. 6:30pm CID Session 7:15pm Bible Study	3.	4. 6:00pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:00pm Mass Choir rehearsal	5.	6.
7. 2015 Accept/ Decline Forms Due	8. 6:00pm Levites meet 6:30pm AOS meet 7:30pm Solomon's Council meet	9. 6:00pm Outreach Ministry meet 6:30pm CID Session 7:15pm Bible Study	10.	11. 7:0pm Sons of Solomon rehearsal	12.	13.
14. Baby Dedication - Kori Marie Smith 12:00pm Youth Christmas Gala	15 7:00pm Solomon's Council meet	16. NO CID	17.	18. 7:00pm Mass Choir rehearsal	19.	20. 6:00pm Couple Ministry Christmas Party @ Ruritan Club on Rte. 258
21. 3:00pm Christmas Celebration Happy Anniversary Sherman & Shirley Haskins	22.	23. NO CID	24. Christmas Eve	25. Christmas Day Happy Birthday Jesus!!	26.	27.
28. Tribes contributions to building fund due	29.	30. NO CID	31. New Year's Eve 10:00pm New Year's Eve service			

Solomon's Temple November Highlights



Jessica Smith was featured in the Suffolk News Herald for being a WISE Gold Star teacher for having at least 90% of her students pass their financial literacy certification assessment. Way to Go Jessica!!!



Solomon's Temple Mass Choir at Oak Grove Baptist Church Pastor's Aide Anniversary Service Sunday, November 2, 2014. Singing Praises to the King!!

Solomon's Temple "Men's Unity Sunday" Sunday, November 9th.

Psalm 133:1
"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!"



VERSE OF THE MONTH:
Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. Luke 2:14