



Merry Christmas from the Shivers Family

Temple News



Monthly Newsletter of Solomon's Temple Church

www.solomonstemplechurch.net

Making Christmas a Spiritual Experience

When we approach Christmas in the spirit of humility and with gratitude for Jesus, we celebrate the true meaning of the holiday. By: Pablo Diaz

It's easy to overlook the spiritual meaning of Christmas in the midst of holiday hustle and bustle. The majority of our time is spent on long lines in the stores, cooking, cleaning and much more. We tend to forget about the joy and comfort the day brings to our hearts. The preparation for the holiday consumes all of our energy. By the time Christmas arrives, we are physically exhausted, emotionally depleted, and we feel spiritually empty. But it doesn't have to be this way; instead, let's make time to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas, Jesus' birth, and celebrate His presence in our lives. Unless we are intentional, the busyness of the season will divert us from the spiritual experience.

When we feel the Holy Spirit of Christmas, the season takes on a whole new meaning. I'm reminded of one of the most poignant scenes in the Christmas movie, *Mr. Krueger's Christmas*. Jimmy Stewart plays Willie Krueger, a lonely man whose wife passed away and who lives with a cat in a basement.

On Christmas Eve, Willie walks over to the nativity set on the night table and picks up the porcelain manger holding baby Jesus. He is then transported to the inn where people gathered around baby Jesus. At this time, Willie realizes that no one can see or hear him except for baby Jesus. In a heartfelt moment he says to Jesus, "Thank you for everything you have done for me. As long as I can remember you have been right by my side. I never forget when you walked with me for those first few hours after I lost Martha. I have always been able to count on you. When I felt dark inside, you were right there every time."

When we approach Christmas in the spirit of humility and with gratitude for Jesus, we celebrate the true meaning of the holiday. In the Gospel narrative, Mary, the Angels and the Wise Men sang praise to the newborn King of Israel. In this spirit, let us worship Him, and embrace the greatest gift of the season, Jesus.

Lord, we pause from the busyness of this holiday season to worship You and to give thanks for who You are in our lives.

Church Events

- Dec. 1st – Education Ministry will meet
- Dec 2nd - 2019 Agendas due
- Dec. 3rd & 10th – Solomon's Council will meet
- Dec. 9th – Temple Nation
- Dec. 23rd – Christmas Service
- Dec. 24th – Christmas Eve
- Dec. 25th – Christmas Day
- Dec. 30th – Family & Friends Fitness Sunday
- Dec. 31st – New Year's Eve
- Dec. 31st – New Year's Eve service

December 2018

Christmas season is already in town,
Let us spread the love to everyone around.
Have fun and enjoy with the friends you found,
And everywhere you will hear a laughing sound.

Christmas season is about giving gifts,
Always remember your nephews and nieces.
Just recall how much happiness this brings,
For it is always better to give than to receive.

Christmas season is felt by everyone,
So there is no reason for you to be with no one.
Share the joy and love with everyone,
And you will be blessed by the Almighty One.

Christmas season really makes us see,
How beautiful the world we live in is.
Be contented of what you have and who you are with,
And you will definitely experience happiness and peace.



Christmas Giving ~ By Iris W. Bray

Christmas is for giving, And for showing that we care,
For honouring the Christ Child, With the loving gifts we share
The wise men gave of riches; The shepherds, faith and love.
Each gift, in its own measure, Was smiled on from above.
Let every gift be treasured; Not always size or price
Determines the extent of love, And willing sacrifice.
Handsome gifts with festive trim, Brings smiles of sweet
content, But modest gifts of humble means
Are oftentimes heaven sent. Whether it be large or small
Each gift will share in part, The message of true Christmas joy
If given from the heart!

Christmas Prayer--Submitted by Rev. Lia Icaza Willetts

Loving God, on this Christmas Day,
We praise the new born child,
Our Lord and [Savior Jesus Christ](#).
We open our eyes to see the mystery of faith.
We claim the promise of [Emmanuel](#) "[God with us](#)."
We remember that our Savior was born in a manger
And walked as a humble suffering savior.
Lord, help us to share the love of God
With everyone we encounter,
To feed the hungry, cloth the naked,
And stand against injustice and oppression.
We pray for the ending of war
And rumors of war.
We pray for peace upon the Earth.
We thank you for our families and friends
And for the many blessings we have received.
We rejoice today with the best gifts
Of hope, peace, joy and the love of God in Jesus Christ. Amen.



The stick-together families are happier by far
Than the brothers and the sisters who take separate
highways are.
The gladdest people living are the wholesome folks who
make
A circle at the fireside that no power but death can
break.
And the finest of conventions ever held beneath the sun
Are the little family gatherings when the busy day is
done.

There are rich folk, there are poor folk, who imagine
they are wise,
And they're very quick to shatter all the little family ties.
Each goes searching after pleasure in his own selected
way,
Each with strangers likes to wander, and with strangers
likes to play.
But it's bitterness they harvest, and it's empty joy they
find,
For the children that are wisest are the stick-together
kind.

There are some who seem to fancy that for gladness
they must roam,
That for smiles that are the brightest they must wander
far from home.
That the strange friend is the true friend, and they travel
far astray
they waste their lives in striving for a joy that's far
away,
But the gladdest sort of people, when the busy day is
done,
Are the brothers and the sisters who together share their
fun.

It's the stick-together family that wins the joys of earth,
That hears the sweetest music and that finds the finest
mirth;
It's the old home roof that shelters all the charm that life
can give;
There you find the gladdest play-ground, there the
happiest spot to live.
And, O weary, wandering brother, if contentment you
would win,
Come you back unto the fireside and be comrade with
your kin.



Merry Christmas

Christmas gift suggestions, To your enemy,
forgiveness. To an opponent, tolerance.
To a friend, your heart. To a customer, service.
To all, charity. To every child, a good example.
To yourself, respect. ~ Oren Arnold ~

December Kingdom Schedule

December Scriptures

12/2 Luke 1:34-37
 12/9 Isaiah 7:13-16
 12/16 1 Timothy 1:15-17
 12/23 Luke 2:10-12
 12/30 John 1:1-3

Welcome Schedule

12/2 Sis. Wendy Green
 12/9 Sis. Raven Parker
 12/16 Sis. Lonnie Batten
 12/23 Sis. Linda Jordan
 12/30 Bro. Terry Rawls

Door Opener

Bro. James Green Sr.



Worship Leaders Schedule

12/2 Elder Sarah Hatton
 12/9 Sis. Phyllis Duck
 12/16 Min. Cynthia Edwards
 12/23 Elder Margaret Shivers-Thomas
 12/30 Elder Wayne Hatton



Servant Leaders Schedule

12/2 Sis. Sylvia Gundy
 12/9 Sis. Phyllis Duck
 12/16 Sis. Lucy Watkins
 12/23 Bro. Donald Watkins
 12/30 Sis. Shirley Haskins

Communion Bowls

Bro. James Green Sr.
 Bro. Donald Watkins



NEW

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, Elder Wayne Hatton. or Bro. James Green Sr.**

December 2018 Adult CID Teaching Schedule

Educational Partners for the month of December are:

Elder Edith Shivers, Minister Cynthia Edwards, Sis. Lucy Watkins, Sis. Shirley Haskins

12/4 Love and Serve God | Joshua 24:1-3A, 13-15, 21-24
 Teacher: Elder Edith Shivers
 Youth: Elder Karen Lee & Sis. Tanisha White

12/11 Love and Worship God | Psalm 103:1-17A, 21, 22
 Teacher: Minister Cynthia Edwards
 Youth: Elder Margaret Shivers-Thomas & Sis. Faye Thompson

12/18 NO CID | Love God for the Gift of Jesus | Luke 1:26-31; Luke 2:22, 25-35

12/25 NO CID | Love God and Serve Others | Matthew 25:31-46



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 or leave the idea on the secretary's desk.

Verse of the Month

Therefore, the Lord himself will give you a sign: The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and will call him Immanuel. Isaiah 7:14



Advent

Dec. 2nd – Dec. 24th



December



Schedule of Events

DATE	TIME	EVENT
12/1/18	10:00am	Education Ministry will meet
12/2/18		2019 Agendas are due
12/2/18	3:00pm	Elder Shivers will be one of the platform speakers at Empowerment Temple Ministries, 219 N. County Dr., Waverly, VA, for their "A Parade of Hats" service.
12/3/18	6:30pm	Solomon's Council will meet
12/4/18	6:30pm/7:15pm	CID session/Bible Study
12/6/18	7:00pm	Sons of Solomon rehearsal
12/9/18	During service	Temple Nation - "Holly" Day "Son" Day - Everyone is asked to wear your ugly sweaters.
12/9/18	During service	Dedication service for John Bond III
12/10/18	6:30pm	Solomon's Council will meet
12/10/18	7:00pm-8:30pm	Youth Praise Dance practice
12/11/18	6:30pm/7:15pm	CID session/Bible Study
12/12/18	7:00pm-8:30pm	Youth Praise Dance practice
12/13/18	6:30pm	Youth Choir rehearsal
12/16/18	After Service	Assembly of Servants Christmas Fellowship at Smithfield Station
12/17/18	7:00pm-8:30pm	Youth Praise Dance practice
12/18/18		No CID session/Bible Study
12/19/18	7:00pm-8:30pm	Youth Praise Dance practice
12/20/18	6:00pm/7:00pm	Praise Team rehearsal/Joyful Voices rehearsal
12/21/18		First Day of Winter
12/23/18	2:00pm	Christmas Celebration service
12/24/18		Christmas Eve
12/25/18		Christmas Day - Happy Birthday Jesus!
12/27/18		No choir rehearsal
12/30/18	9:00am	Family & Friends Fitness Sunday
12/31/18	7:00pm	New Year's Eve celebration - Feeding at 7:00pm. Everyone is asked to bring a dish. Service will begin at 8:00pm

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. Shenille Davis
Sis. Darnelle Jefferson
Sis. Phyllis Duck



Bereavement Ministry

The purpose of the Bereavement Ministry is to provide comfort and support to disciples of Solomon's Temple during time of loss of a loved one, and to show love to our disciples and assure them that they are not alone during this difficult time in their lives. We have "Spiritual Support Care Teams" to help you in this



Bereavement Team for the month of November

Sis. Lucy Watkins & Sis. Valerie Robinson-Ford



He give us **comfort** in all our troubles. Then we can **comfort** other people who have the same troubles. We give the same kind of **comfort** God gives us." 2 Corinthians 1:4



DECEMBER 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1. 10:00am Education Ministry will meet
2. 2019 Agendas due 3:00pm Elder Shivers at Empowerment Temple Ministries First Sunday of Advent	3. 6:30pm Solomon's Council will meet	4. 6:30pm CID session 7:15pm Bible Study	5.	6. 7:00pm Sons of Solomon rehearsal	7.	8.
9. Temple Nation Dedication service for John Bond III Queenen Turner	10. 6:30pm Solomon's Council will meet 7:00pm-8:30pm Youth Praise dance practice Kinestia Burrell	11. 6:30pm CID session 7:15pm Bible Study	12. 7:00pm-8:30pm Youth Praise dance practice	13. 6:30pm Youth Choir rehearsal	14.	15.
16. Alter service Assembly of Servants will fellowship at Smithfield Station	17. 7:00pm-8:30pm Youth Praise dance practice	18. No CID/Bible Study	19. 7:00pm-8:30pm Youth Praise dance practice	20. 6:00pm Praise Team rehearsal 7:00pm Joyful Voices rehearsal Dana Cary	21. Happy Anniversary Sherman & Shirley Haskins First Day of Winter	22.
23. Christmas service	24. Christina Turner Mor'Neira Johnson	25. Christmas Day Happy Birthday Jesus	26. Melvin Turner Sr.	27. No Choir rehearsal	28.	29.
30. Family & Friends Jordan Elliott	31. 7:00pm New Year's Eve service	No CID/Bible Study				

2018 Theme: The Year of Elevation – 1st Peter 5:6

So be content with who you are, and don't put on airs. God's strong hand is on you; he'll promote you at the right time. (MSG)



December Birthdays Happy Birthday

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



December 9th
December 10th
December 20th
December 24th
December 24th
December 26th
December 30th



December Anniversary Happy Anniversary



Sherman & Shirley Haskins

December 21st

Sunday, Dec. 9th
After Praise & Worship
Temple Nation
"Holly" Day "Son" Day
Youth disciples, if you have not signed up to attend, please see **Sis. Wendy Green or Sis. Shenille Davis TODAY.**
Also as a reminder to everyone, remember to wear your **UGLY sweaters** if you want to participate in the **UGLY sweater contest.**

"Christmas is a day of meaning and traditions, a special day spent in the warm circle of family and friends."
~ Margaret Thatcher

Meet Our Newest Disciple – Sis. Joyce Greene

Sis. Joyce Greene has completed her New Disciples class. Welcome to the Solomon's Temple family Sis. Joyce.



CLASS OF 2018
OLD DOMINION UNIVERSITY THE COLLEGE OF SCIENCES IS PLEASED TO ANNOUNCE

Kevin Maurice Shepherd, Jr.

WILL GRADUATE WITH THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE WITH A MAJOR IN PSYCHOLOGY WITH HUMAN SERVICES MINOR

SATURDAY, THE FIFTEENTH OF DECEMBER, TWO THOUSAND EIGHTEEN AT NINE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING

TED CONSTANT CENTER
4320 Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA

PSALMS 37:4



Kevin's Grad Party
You have been cordially invited to celebrate the Graduation of Kevin Shepherd, Jr from Old Dominion University with a Bachelors of Science of Psychology and Human Services Minor

Saturday, December 15th, 2018 at 5 - 8 PM
Straford University 836 J Clyde Morris Blvd | Newport News, VA 23601
RSVP with Jenell by December 8th - (757) 332-2447



Prayer List

Sis. Vernell Brown
Sis. Mary Diggs
Sis. Lonnie Batten
Sis. Connie Payne
Sis. Vernell Wrenn
Sis. Ruby Clarke
Sis. Mary Cornick
Sis. Florence Turner
Sis. Sonjia Moore
Sis. Tami Drew
Bro. James Green Sr.
Sis. Marion Smith
Sis. Frances Wells-Robertson
Sis. Mattie Turner
Mr. Carl Duck
Sis. Angela Batten
Bro. Stanley Robinson
Sis. Sarah Gatewood & Family
Sis. Lenore Williams
Bereaved Families



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



Jayla Gray

Each September, the National Association of Secondary School Principals sends nomination materials to all public and private high schools in the United States. Each school in Virginia is given the opportunity to select an outstanding sophomore based on his or her leadership potential. That sophomore represents his or her high school at the Virginia HOBY Leadership Seminar the following spring, May 31-June 2, 2019.

Jayla has been selected to represent Smithfield High School !!!

Congratulations - Kevin Shepherd Jr.

Highlights from Baby Dedication, Thanksgiving Mission Meal Give Away, and Priceless Moments Snapshots

