

March  
2014



NALC

# Shiloh Spiritual Informer

**The mission purpose of Shiloh as a family of God is to witness to the Good News of Jesus Christ through word and deed.**

**WORSHIP:**

10:30 AM every Sunday

**SUNDAY SCHOOL OPENING**

9:10 AM for all ages every Sunday

**SUNDAY SCHOOL:**

9:30 AM for all ages every Sunday

**HOLY COMMUNION:**

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month and on Festivals

**NURSERY:**

Provided for preschoolers

**PASTOR:** The Rev. David L. Hefner

**CONGREGATION COUNCIL & COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES:**

President Jr. (Raymond) Frye  
Vice-President Rachel Bowman  
Secretary Sharon Sharpe

Christian Education Robbie Huffman  
Evangelism Pastor Dave  
Parish Activities Dan Ritchie  
Property David Sharpe  
Social Ministry Shelia Brown  
Stewardship&Finance Sharon Sharpe  
Worship & Music Alice Whisnant

Golden Group Rachel Bowman  
Shiloh Luth. Men M. David Sharpe  
Shiloh Luth. Women Sharon Sharpe  
Treasurer Sue White\*

*\*assistant to council*

**STAFF:**

Organist Alice Whisnant  
Secretary Sharon Sharpe

**FINANCIAL:**

Building Fund Congregation Council  
Memorial Fund Congregation Council

**SHILOH SPIRITUAL INFORMER**

Issue No. 03 Vol. 14 March 2014

**Published Monthly by:**

Shiloh Lutheran Church  
1011 Shiloh Church Road  
Hickory, NC 28601  
Phone: 828-495-7462  
shilohl@embarqmail.com  
www.shilohlutheranchurch.org

FREE to members, friends & guests  
of Shiloh Lutheran Church

Lent is around the corner and begins with Ash Wednesday March 5. The usual scripture is about not parading around your piety for other people to see.



God surely sees what we do, and we have our reward from him already. What is it really that we get from our "religious duties?" We get a stronger, healthier relationship with God and each other. It is what comes as a consequence of spending time with God, alone or with others.

I would encourage each of you to add something to your faith habits during Lent. I remember asking last year if anyone had ever fasted for religious reasons and only one or two raised their hands. Fasting is not the same as "giving up something for Lent." A fast pleasing to God, according to Isaiah 58, is to loose the bonds of injustice, let the oppressed go free, feed the hungry, give shelter to the homeless in your own home, clothe the naked, and do not keep yourself from your kinfolk. So a proper fast during our lifetime would be to set aside time to help others in need.

It will mean giving up something else so that you have time and energy to do this work of helping others. And it should become a way of life, not just something we do a few weeks in the spring before Resurrection Day. If getting out among the needy is not possible for you, then fasting from food and studying scripture or praying more instead of eating lunch may be your new practice. Or maybe it's giving up that TV show that you should not be watching anyway.

Lent is a time for repentance. Repentance is about turning to God to allow his Holy Spirit to work in us, to yield to his power, to give ourselves to God so he may conform us to the image of his Son (Romans 8:29).

May our prayer be that God would make us hate our sin and desire to be like Jesus in love and compassion and obedience. Amen.

In His service, I am  
Pastor Dave

## Chief Shepherd - Jesus Christ

**Pastor:** The Rev. David L. Hefner

**President:** Jr. (Raymond) Frye

**Vice President:** Rachel Bowman

**Council Secretary:** Sharon Sharpe

### 2014 Congregation Council Representatives:

Vance Baker, Rachel Bowman, Sheila Brown, Raymond Frye Jr., Robbie Huffman, Dan Ritchie, M. David Sharpe, Sharon Sharpe, Alice Whisnant

## MARCH

- 2 - James Whisnant
- 9, 16, 23, 30 - LENT  
{no Altar Flowers}

## APRIL

- 6 - LENT
- 13 - PALM SUNDAY
- 20 - Patsy Sigmon
- 27 - OPEN

The 2014 Flower Calendar is in the Narthex.  
Sign the Flower Calendar and be sure to let the secretary know your special dedication prior to 4:00pm on Wednesday before you provide flowers.

Suzanne's Florist (Granite Falls, NC - phone: 396-4090) provides the Altar Flowers for Shiloh. The cost is \$20.00 per vase + \$5.00 delivery = **\$45.00 Total.**

~ Make checks payable to Shiloh~

[If you plan to provide your own flowers please notify Suzanne's Florist by Tuesday before your Sunday.]

### Pastor contact info:

Church Office: 8:30am - Noon on  
Monday, Wednesday, & Thursday

Church Phone: 495-7462 Home: [REDACTED]

Cell: [REDACTED]

email: [REDACTED]

### Secretary contact info:

[shilohlc@embarqmail.com](mailto:shilohlc@embarqmail.com) or [REDACTED]

phone: [REDACTED]

## MARCH

- 1 - Cary Bowman
- 3 - Brooklyn Helms
- 4 - Christin Huffman Sigmon
- 7 - Donald Lee Bowman,  
Alice Whisnant
- 12 - Mark Bowman
- 13 - Helen Bowman, Carter Pennell
- 15 - Anita Church      22 - Betty Starnes
- 23 - Ashton Bowman    24 - Marlene Hall
- 30 - Edith Morrison



**NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:** The deadline for the April newsletter is **MARCH 20<sup>th</sup>**.

**WEEKLY BULLETIN DEADLINE:**  
Weekly deadline is **4:00 PM each Wednesday**

## TAE KWON DO PRACTICE MARCH SCHEDULE

March 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19, 24, 26

## Let Us Pray For . . .

### Health for our members, families and friends:

Tyler Bebber (*Libby Richey*); Beulah Bowman (*member*); Kelly Bowman (*Libby Richey*); Paul Bowman (*member*); Bill Burgess (*Al Blystone*); Lana Craig (*Libby Richey*); Peggy Davis (*member*); Randy Davis (*member*); Berlie Deal (*Tom Bumgarner mother*); Kathy Drum (*Bruce Starnes daughter*); Billy Fox (*Margie Bowman relative*); Miriam Gentry (*member*); Paula Watson Fowler (*Sharon Sharpe / PJ's sister*); Dal Haigler (*Sheila Davis uncle*); Ruth Hall (*member*); Richard Hallman (*member*); David Hines (*member*); Bobby Huffman, Jr. (*member*); Norma Huffman (*member*); Peggy Kirby (*Patsy Sigmon*); Lois Lanning (*member*); Brittany Miller (*Sue White*); Raby Page (*member*); Shirley Page (*member*); Larry Pannell (*David Sharpe friend*); Margaret Richey (*member*); Sheila Rogers (*Libby Richey*); Joyce Scott (*Lois Lanning twin sister*); Pr. Pierson Shaw (*former Shiloh Interim Pastor*); Terry Sigmon (*Sharon Sharpe brother*); Janet Sipe (*Margie Bowman family*); Barbara Smith (*Brenda Hallman aunt*); Wade Smith (*Brenda Hallman uncle*); Betty Starnes (*member*); Dale Starnes (*member*); Jean Starnes (*member*); Jerry Starnes (*member*); Larry Starnes; Alice Whisnant (*member*); Lewis White (*member*); Ann Winebarger (*member*); Scotty Winebarger (*member*)

### Those who grieve: The families of:

Harold Abernethy (*Tom Bumgarner friend*); Ted Bowman (*Roxanne Buff father / Wayne Bowman brother*); Marvin Lippard (*Martha Frye & Dan Ritchie brother-in-law*); Donnie Miller (*David Shapre co-worker*); Dennis Russell (*Patsy Sigmon / Rachel Bowman & Sharon Sharpe classmate*); Sandra Smith (*Alice Whisnant*)

### Those in peril or distress:

Victims of natural disasters and war  
Our military and protective services, especially: Ryan Boch, Cary Bowman, Benjamin Delgadillo, Morgan London, Gregory Sigmon

### Those in your service:

NALC Bishop John Bradosky; NALC Carolina Mission District Dean Carl Haynes; Our Pastors, and Congregation Leaders

### Missionaries: Pastor Matthew Riak (South Sudan)

Pastor Samar Ghandour (West Africa)

Pastor Scott Ryll (Hungary)

## **ANNUAL CONGREGATION MEETING**

The annual Congregation Meeting for the purpose of receiving reports from the pastor, church treasurer, auxiliaries, and committees will be held on Sunday, March 2, 2014 immediately prior to the worship service at 10:30am.

## **MARCH GOLDEN GROUP MEETING**

The Golden Group will meet at 10:00am Wednesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> in the Parish Hall. Wear your working clothes! For our first group service project we will be cleaning the Parish Hall chairs. A covered dish lunch will follow. Ham, Chicken bites, roll and drinks are being provided. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share with other.

Contact Rachel Bowman [REDACTED] or Shirley Page [REDACTED] for more information.

## **SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE & BACON SUPPER**

March 4, 2014  
5:30pm – Until

Please come and enjoy the food, fund & Fellowship

## **FUNDRAISER BREAKFAST**

~ Proceeds to go to the Roof Fund ~

Saturday, March 15, 2014  
7:00am – Until

Menu: Ham, Livermush, Sausage, Bacon,  
Gravy, Eggs, Grits, Biscuits, Jelly,  
Fruit & Beverages

Cost: Adults \$6.00  
Children 3-10 \$3.00  
Under 3 Free

Please put this date on your calendar and join us at the Parish Hall.

## **CHOIR CHIMES REHEARSALS RESUME IN MARCH**

Choir chimes rehearsals will resume in March. Rehearsals will change to the 1st & 3rd Tuesday's at 6:00 p.m.

We would love to have some new members. If you wish to give it a try, please speak with Kathy Hefner [REDACTED] in order to be certain there is enough music for everyone. Please consider coming and making a joyful noise with us to the glory of God.

## **OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD 2014**

Items of the month for **March: hats, gloves, socks, and t-shirts**. The age groups are 2-4, 5-9, and 10-14. Items should be new and may be purchased or hand-made. Please remember, no war-related or military designs should be on any of these items.

Also, keep in mind the size of the shoebox. Our boxes are 11 ¼" x 6" x 4 ¼". We discovered last year that a standard ruler won't fit in the box.

Donations may be made to Operation Christmas Child for help with the cost of shipping our shoeboxes. Contributions may be made with your weekly offering. Designate the amount you give on your offering envelope or on your check if you have no envelope. The cost of delivering a shoebox to a child overseas is \$7.00. Your monthly donation of \$1.00 (or more) for seven months will sponsor one shoebox.

Collection boxes will be located in the narthex and the Parish Hall.

Please prayerfully consider how you can share the love of God with some of the world's most needy children.

Contact Shirley Page [REDACTED] or Rachel Bowman [REDACTED] for more information.

## **VALENTINES SUPPER THANK YOU**

Many thanks to everyone who participated in the Valentine Supper. We appreciate all who assisted with the preparation and those who joined in this special time of fellowship.

## **LOOKING AHEAD**

This year Shiloh is hosting the 6:30 AM Easter Sunrise service sponsored by the Bethlehem Ministerial Association. If any of you would like to offer your musical talents, either voice or instrument, please talk to Pastor Dave ASAP. We are planning a combined choir with people from all participating churches. The order of service will be a fairly normal "green hymnal" service with special music, but no communion. You'll have to come back at 10:30am for that.



Sunday March, 9th  
Spring Ahead

## CHRIST UNITED CALLS NEW PASTOR

Congratulations to **Christ United** in Granite Falls and their newly called pastor, **Heidi Punt**. She will begin her ministry Ash Wednesday. Heidi will be installed on Sunday March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 pm at Christ United, 170 Duke St. God bless your ministry together.

## THANK YOU

Dear friends in Christ,  
Your many acts of kindness have meant so much during the loss of Margarea and my recent illness. Thank you for these blessings and your continued prayers and support.  
Alice & James Whisnant

~~~~~  
Thanks to everyone for all the prayers, cards, calls, acts of assistance and support following my recent foot surgery. It is always so reassuring to know that our Shiloh family is there to care when we need it.  
Thank You!  
Sharon Sharpe

## FIND MORE INFORMATION

North American Lutheran Church - NALC

<http://thenalc.org>

Lutheran CORE <http://www.luthercore.org>

Carolinas Mission District <http://carolinasnalc.org>

Women of the NALC - WNALC

<http://thenalc.org/congregationally-focused-womans-ministry>

Carolinas Lutheran Women (CLW)

<http://www.carolinaslutheranwomen.org>

## MARCH WORSHIP SCRIPTURES

|                 |                                    |                    |
|-----------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|
| <u>March 2</u>  | <i>Transfiguration of Our Lord</i> |                    |
|                 | Exodus 24:8-18                     | Psalm 2:6-12       |
|                 | 2 Peter 1:16-21                    | Matthew 17:1-9     |
| <u>March 9</u>  | <i>First Sunday of Lent</i>        |                    |
|                 | Genesis 3:1-21                     | Psalm 32:1-7       |
|                 | Romans 5:12-19                     | Matthew 4:1-11     |
| <u>March 16</u> | <i>Second Sunday of Lent</i>       |                    |
|                 | Genesis 12:1-9                     | Psalm 121          |
|                 | Romans 4:1-8                       | John 3:1-17        |
| <u>March 23</u> | <i>Third Sunday of Lent</i>        |                    |
|                 | Genesis 17:1-7                     | Psalm 95:1-9       |
|                 | Romans 5:1-8                       | John 4:5-30, 39-42 |
| <u>March 30</u> | <i>Fourth Sunday of Lent</i>       |                    |
|                 | Isaiah 42:14-21                    | Psalm 142          |
|                 | Ephesians 5:8-14                   | John 9:1-41        |

## STEWARDSHIP & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Financial Report as of January 31, 2014

|                                                 |    |  |
|-------------------------------------------------|----|--|
| <b>January Total Income for Budget</b>          | \$ |  |
| <b>January Total Expenses for Budget</b>        | \$ |  |
| <b>January Actual Income less Expenses</b>      |    |  |
| <i>Over/Under Budget for Month</i>              |    |  |
| <b>Non-budget January Income:</b>               |    |  |
| Benevolence - General                           |    |  |
| - LWR -World Hunger                             |    |  |
| - Food Pantry                                   |    |  |
| - Other:                                        |    |  |
| Operation Christmas Child                       |    |  |
| Building Fund - General                         |    |  |
| - Roof Fund                                     |    |  |
| <i>Total All Income for January</i>             | \$ |  |
| <i>Total All Expenditures for January</i>       | \$ |  |
| <i>Income Over/Under Expenditures for Month</i> |    |  |

## LENTEN EVENING OFFERINGS DESIGNATED TO NALC MISSIONARY

Shiloh's evening offerings during Lent will be sent to Pastor Matthew Riak who serves in South Sudan.

Additional information about Pastor Riak is located on page 5.

## STOP, LOOK and LISTEN

Lent, the season of the church year that's associated with repentance, begins on Ash Wednesday (March 5 this year). While some people deny themselves by giving up something for Lent, others prepare for Easter through special Bible studies or devotions.

Christians observe Lent for these reasons:

- It causes us to STOP. Lent says, "Stop and rest awhile," as well as "Stop doing wrong."
- It tells us to LOOK. Look inward for an honest self-examination. Look upward to see the cross of Christ offering healing and love. Look forward to the hope of the Resurrection.
- It tells us to LISTEN. Listen to the words of Christ. Listen to the voice of God. Listen to the winds of the Spirit of God.

Stop, look and listen. These three words aren't only important for our safety in travel; they're also helpful for our journey through the 40 days of Lent.

## Meet NALC's missionary to South Sudan:



*My name is Reverend Matthew M. Riak. I was born in the war zone of South Sudan and became aware of Jesus as my Savior when I was seven years old. These two facts have shaped who I am and the nature of my ministry today. My strong personal relationship with Christ has brought me to the place where my only desire is to allow him to work through me in whatever way.*

*In 1992 I came to Kakuma Refugee Camp in Kenya, where I stayed for nine years and completed high school (1999). During that time I worked as the Adult Christian Education Field Director, trained as a Bible translator for the Dinka language, served as a Sunday school and Mothers' Union teacher, and worked in youth leadership training. I received a diploma from the Theological Education by Extension Ministry, Sudan Program (TEEM).*

*In 2001, I married my lovely Sudanese wife, Achol, but soon after left for the United States as part of the resettlement process. In the U.S., I was invited by Pr. Kelvin Smith to minister to the Lost Boys of Sudan in Charlotte, NC. In 2003, Achol joined me while I studied for a degree in Christian Education at New Life Theological Seminary. I was also a pastor for the Sudanese Christian Community Fellowship in the Episcopal Diocese of NC. I took every opportunity to share with churches about the pain and suffering of the Sudanese people caused by the civil war in South Sudan, and to let people know why the Lost Boys Sudan are here in America. At the end of 2003, God gave me an opportunity to form Sudan Lutheran Community Development (SLCD) to address a variety of needs of South Sudanese people in both the US and South Sudan.*

*In August, 2004, Achol and I moved to Grand Rapids, Michigan where we joined with ELCA churches in developing a South Sudanese ministry in Michigan. God blessed this vision with the outcome of forming Sudanese Christ Lutheran Church in Grand Rapids which worshipped for the first time on May 23, 2005. This congregation has grown to serve many South Sudanese individuals and families in Michigan.*

*In the last few years, I have earned a bachelor's degree, a master's in Christian education from Newburgh Seminary, and a master's in theological studies from the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. I am an ordained pastor of the NALC and LCMC assigned with my family to missionary service through World Mission Prayer League to develop St. Luke's Theological College in South Sudan.*

*Today, with the help of St. Luke's Lutheran Church (LCMC) in Grand Rapids, MI, World Mission Prayer League, the North American Lutheran Church, and several LCMC congregations, I travel between the U.S. and South Sudan to share the Gospel and develop Christian leaders through St. Luke's Theological College in South Sudan. With my wife and son, Emmanuel, I look forward to serving the Lord we worship through this ministry.*

*May God's will be fulfilled!*

*Rev. Matthew M. Riak*

*matthewriak@gmail.com*

*616-745-0869 011-211-955-428-371*

**SHILOH LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
1011 SHILOH CHURCH ROAD  
HICKORY, NC 28601



**Shiloh Spiritual Informer**  
**Issue No. 03 Vol. 14**  
**March 2014**

**YOUR INVITED TO A SPECIAL  
THRIVENT SPONSORED EVENT**

**Catawba Valley Chapter**

**Activity:** Concordia University Chicago  
*Wind Symphony*

**Date:** Saturday, March 8, 2014  
**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Place:** P.E. Monroe Auditorium  
at Lenoir Rhyne University  
625 7th Ave NE, Hickory, NC 28601

**Contact:** Scott Woodard  
[REDACTED]

This is the last tour date for the *Symphony* before returning to Chicago.

Ticket cost is \$8 prior to February 28th and \$10 after February 28th. Tickets are available at the P.E. Monroe Auditorium box office beginning January 14<sup>th</sup> from the hours of 4-6pm or online at [conferences-events@lru.edu](mailto:conferences-events@lru.edu) Thrivent members and non-members are invited to attend.

**LENTEN SUNDAY EVENING 6:00pm  
SERVICE SCHEDULE**

This year we will be participating with other NALC congregations for our 6:00 evening services. Only four pastors are involved this year and that means a couple weeks we'll each preach in our own congregation. Below you can see the schedule and themes for Shiloh. Mt. Bethel Methodist Church has invited me to preach on the 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 so we'll join them that evening.

The chosen theme this year is the seven words of Jesus from the cross. We'll save the last two of the seven for Holy Week The other five are listed below with the preacher for the evening.

**March 9** - Pastor Dave - Shiloh, Hickory - "*I thirst*"

**March 16** - Pr. Wesley Frye - Mount Calvary, Claremont - "*Why have you forsaken me?*"

**March 23** at Mt. Bethel UM - Pastor Dave – "*Today you will be with me in paradise*"

**March 30** - Pr. Randall Cauble - New Jerusalem, Hickory - "*Behold your son, behold your mother*"

**April 6** - Pr. Steve Rhodes- Millers, Hickory - "*Father, forgive them*"