

Shiloh Newsletter

December 2023

Monthly Newsletter of Shiloh Christian Union Church



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Merry Christmas



SHILOHCU
CHURCH



Pastor's Corner...Chuck Whitmire

Emmanuel

As the calendar turns towards December sometimes it is easy to let our thoughts linger on memories of past Christmases. As I sat at my desk one recent morning, I remembered the many gatherings at our parents homes, with our siblings, our children, nieces and nephews.

For a brief moment I was a little sad that our parents are gone and that we will not be with them this Christmas. Then I realized that the deeper regret was the loss of connection with our eight brothers and sisters that is almost inevitable following the passing of parents. Especially, when you are scattered across several states and separated by hundreds of miles.

My brief moment of grief is very small compared to many who read these words. Some are experiencing the first Christmas since the one you love went home to Heaven. Others are separated from a family member who is in the military, incarcerated, or lives far away and is unable to travel home.

Unfortunately, some have family members who live nearby but are separated by conflict within the family. Sometimes dementia, substance abuse, or bitterness makes it seem as if we have lost that one's presence or fellowship.

To all those who encounter feelings of loneliness or grief this Christmas, let me remind you of the miracle of Emmanuel. This descriptive name for our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ means, "God With Us". It is found in Isaiah 7:14 as the prophet predicts the coming of God's Son to earth. It is affirmed in Matthew 1:22-23 in the angel's message to Joseph.

In His son Jesus, God became one of us. He knows all our joys and sadness. He has come near, so that we might know that He is with us, you are not alone

Worship our wonderful Lord and Savior this Christmas.

Find joy and comfort in the living reality of Emmanuel. The God who is always present.

It's okay to be sad when we think of those who we miss at Christmas. Let that sadness exist in the deeper joy of knowing the One who is present with you.

Find your hope in Jesus. Emmanuel. God is with you.

Shiloh Holiday Services

2100 County Road 5 -- Delta, OH 43515

419-822-4261

December 10 – Children's Christmas Program

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

December 24 – Morning Schedule will be normal times

-Worship Service – 8:30 AM

-Sunday School – 9:45 AM

-Worship Service 11:00 AM

--Christmas Eve Service

--6:00 PM

No Wednesday Night Classes –December 27th

Children's Christmas Musical Program

December 10th

8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Important dates to remember for those involved

December 9th -- 9:00 – 11:30 AM -Dress Rehearsal for everyone.

December 10th –8:30 AM & 11:00 AM

Arrive at 7:30 AM -Performances are at 8:30 & 11:00 AM

The Preschoolers will be singing in the 8:30 AM program only.

Church Contact Information

Chuck Whitmire --Senior Pastor

Jeff Davis --Associate Pastor

Lucas Wilson --Youth Pastor

Sara Goniea --Worship Coordinator

Anita Whitmire --Secretary

Sheri Kessler --Treasurer

Dustin Mays --Technology Coordinator

Pastor Chuck: chuck@shilohcu.org

Pastor Jeff: pastorjf@shilohcu.org

Pastor Lucas: lucas@shilohcu.org

Church Phone: 419-822-4261

Church Web: ShilohCU.Church

Church email: office@shilohcu.org

Dustin: dustin.mays81@gmail.com

CHANGES FOR DECEMBER.....

CREATIVE DISCIPLESHIP

(Teens) will not be meeting on
December 24th

TRUTH-FILLED-TWEENS

for girls Grades 3-6 and

TRUTH-FILLED-TEENS

for girls grades 7th & 8th will not be
meeting during December

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

youth
clubs and adult classes will not be
meeting on December 27th

FAITHFUL MEN & WOMEN'S

Bible Study will only be meeting on
December 12th.

AMERICAN HERITAGE GIRLS

December 12- Mid-Year Awards

Night -6:15 PM

No Mtg On Dec. 26th

TRAIL LIFE BOYS

December 12 -6:15 PM

No Mtg On Dec. 26th

December Music Schedule

December 3rd

Song Leader Kirk Chambers
Pianist..... Arla Fry
Organist..... Kerry Vandock
Special..... Jacob Stutz

December 10^h -Christmas Program

Children's Christmas Program

December 17th

Song Leader Kirk Chambers
Pianist..... Arla Fry
Organist..... Kerry Vandock

December 24th

Song Leader Kirk Chambers
Pianist..... Arla Fry
Organist..... Kerry Vandock
Special..... Bell Choir

December 31st

Song Leader Kirk Chambers
Pianist..... Arla Fry
Organist..... Jennifer Bonner

Elderberry Meeting

The Elderberries will be meeting on
December 12th at 2:00 PM in the Family Life Center.
**Please note the date change from the third Tuesday
to the Second Tuesday for December.**

Elderberries is a ministry to those who have lost a
spouse. If you need transportation contact Ruth
Witte at 419-265-2189



Liberty Center Township Park Drive-Thru Christmas Displays

T315 County Road 8 – 6:00 – 10:00 PM

Opened on Nov 26th

Look for the Shiloh display





Mission News

Mission Board email: missions@shilohcu.org -- Treasurer email: ohioshilohmissions@gmail.com

MISSION BOARD MEMBERS

Lisa Barrett: Linda Studer: Rod McQuillin: Greg Ray: Lori Cundiff

If you would like to make a financial gift, direct your giving to our Missions Treasurer Linda Studer. Make checks payable to Shiloh Missions. There is a giving box in the back of the sanctuary on the first Sunday of each month where you can place your monthly missions giving. This offering helps us meet our commitment to support designated missionaries organization each month.

THE QUARTER COLLECTION is on December 17th and will be going towards the Angel Tree Ministry.

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD TRIP – November 26th – December 2nd. Pray for Linda Studer as she travels to Charlotte, NC to work at the Shoebox processing plant, where she will be helping prepare the boxes to be shipped around the world.

December Spotlight

ANGEL TREE MINISTRY -- A PROGRAM OF PRISON FELLOWSHIP

Angel Tree Christmas - Thousands of children with a mom or dad in prison unwrap joy each year with Angel Tree Christmas --a gift that reminds them they are valued and loved.

Angel Tree Christmas equips churches and other organizations to restore and strengthen relationships between incarcerated parents and their children and families. Every Christmas, Angel Tree mobilizes local churches and organizations to minister to hundreds of thousands of children by delivering a gift, the Gospel message and a personal message of love on behalf of their mom or dad behind bars. In addition, many of our partner churches meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of prisoners' families by enfoldng them in the day-to-day life of the church, helping children attend summer camps and facilitating mentorship.

If you are willing to deliver gifts to local families, please let Sue Davis know-419-822-9437.

Also, you can donate cookies, candy, etc for the goodie trays we give to each family.

Remember that all gifts need to be returned by December 10th.



Thank You for your donations for the **Military Bible Sticks**. We raised \$4,890.00. Faith Comes By Hearing has a matching fund during Nov & December so our giving was doubled. We were able to help provide 391 Bible Sticks. Praise The Lord.

Operation Christmas Child – Shoebox Project We collected 255 Shoeboxes this year. Thank You!

“Behold, the
virgin shall be
with child, and
bear a Son, and
they shall call
His name
Emmanuel”
which is
translated,
“God with us.”

Matthew 1:23

Looking Ahead.....

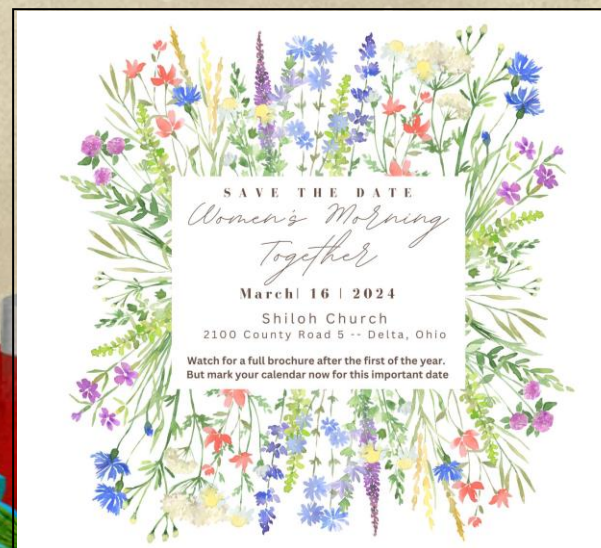
SNOW CAMP -- FEBRUARY 2-4, 2024



OUTDOOR EXPO – MARCH 2, 2024



WOMEN'S MORNING TOGETHER – MARCH 16, 2024



Note from our Youth Pastor - Lucas Wilson

Dear Youth Group Families,

Continuing our teaching on the topic of teen dating, this month we moved on to look at the next clause in Paul's explanation of what it means to not be bound with unbelievers. You will find this in 2 Corinthians 6:14b, "*or what fellowship has light with darkness?*" The key word this month is 'fellowship.' I'm sure you have heard a sermon or Sunday school lesson on 'koinonia' and learned about its emphasis on 'mutual sharing' and the point being the interest of others must be in view as you live together in the Christian life. In a marital relationship, mutual interest is part of the foundation of the covenant together. Dating is only a preparative step toward the goal which is marriage. Fellowship, therefore, must be discussed and the interests of one another must be laid out to determine suitability.

Light and Darkness are two concepts that Scripture uses to reveal two conditions of mankind. Let me give you two examples from Scripture: *Let no one deceive you with empty words, for because of these things the wrath of God comes upon the sons of disobedience. Therefore, do not be partakers with them; for you were formerly darkness, but now you are Light in the Lord; walk as children of Light (for the fruit of the Light consists in all goodness and righteousness and truth), trying to learn what is pleasing to the Lord. Do not participate in the unfruitful deeds of darkness, but instead even expose them; for it is disgraceful even to speak of the things which are done by them in secret. (Eph 5:6-12)*

But you, brethren, are not in darkness, that the day would overtake you like a thief; for you are all sons of light and sons of day. We are not of night nor of darkness; so then let us not sleep as others do but let us be alert and sober. (1 Thess. 5:4-6)

As you can see, the Apostle didn't confuse Light and Darkness, but he kept them separate. We are too often tempted to bring the two closer together and even unite them because of emotions or feelings. Paul, however, admonishes us today to keep these two things apart. It is for this reason, our teens must identify whether the person they are talking to is suitable in this area. The interests of light are different than those of darkness.


*Do not participate
in the unfruitful
deeds of darkness*

- **Light** is interested in exposing the wicked deeds done in darkness. Light desires to stand in the presence of God Almighty. Light walks in all goodness and righteousness and truth. Light congregates with light and those of it will walk with the Lord.
- **Darkness** is interested in hiding the defilement of sin. Darkness is characterized by empty words and unfruitful deeds focused on pleasing the flesh. Darkness is filled with disgrace and tends to lull those asleep who stumble into it.

As the teens of this church seek to find suitable spouses, we must walk with them assisting them in their pursuit of holiness. What interests do your teens have in the word of God? How does God's word direct the desires of your teens? What does God want your teens to pursue during their lives? How will finding a suitable spouse provide a full life that pleases God?

What we've covered so far: **Suitability Standard #1:** Suitability starts with real faith and partnership in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. To this, we now add: **Suitability Standard #2:** Suitability is discovered through the embrace of one another's interests. The deepest and most important interests center around our loving obedience to the commands of Christ.

In Christ,
Lucas



December 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
SHILOH CHRISTIAN UNION CHURCH 2100 COUNTY ROAD 5 – DELTA, OHIO 43515 419-419-822-4261 ShilohCU.church office@shilohcu.org					1	2 WOMEN'S COMMITTEE MTG.- 9:00 AM
3 5:00 PM-CREATIVE DISCIPLESHIP (TEENS)	4 BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 7:00 PM	5 5:45 AM-MEN'S BIBLE STUDY @SHILOH 7:00 PM-ELDER MTG 7:00 PM-TRUSTEE MTG	6 8:00 AM-MEN'S BIBLE STUDY-Liberty Center CAFÉ 6:30 PM-TEEN MEAL/OPEN GYM 6:45-8:15 PM-YOUTH CLUBS 7:00-8:00-ADULT ELECTIVES	7	8	9 CHILDREN'S PROGRAM DRESS REHEARSAL 9:00-11:00 AM
10 CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PROGRAM 8:30 & 11:00 AM 5:00 PM-CREATIVE DISCIPLESHIP (TEENS) FAITHFUL MEN/WOMEN BIBLE STUDY-5:00 PM	11 BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 7:00 PM MEN'S BIBLE STUDY-7049 State Route 110	12 5:45 AM-MEN'S BIBLE STUDY @SHILOH 2:00 PM- ELDERBERRIES MTG AHG – 6:15 PM TRAIL LIFE-6:15 PM 6:45 PM-MISSION BOARD MTG.	13 8:00 AM-MEN'S BIBLE STUDY-Liberty Center CAFÉ 6:30 PM-TEEN MEAL/OPEN GYM 6:45-8:15 PM-YOUTH CLUBS 7:00-8:00-ADULT ELECTIVES	14	15	16
17 QUARTER FOR MISSIONS COLLECTION	18 BELL CHOIR PRACTICE 7:00 PM	19 5:45 AM-MEN'S BIBLE STUDY @SHILOH 7:00 PM-OFFICIAL BOARD MEETING	20 8:00 AM-MEN'S BIBLE STUDY-Liberty Center CAFÉ 6:30 PM-TEEN MEAL/OPEN GYM 6:45-8:15 PM-YOUTH CLUBS 7:00-8:00-ADULT ELECTIVES	21	22	23
24 6:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE	25 <i>Merry Christmas!</i> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	26 5:45 AM-MEN'S BIBLE STUDY @SHILOH	27 8:00 AM-MEN'S BIBLE STUDY-Liberty Center CAFÉ NO YOUTH CLUBS OR BIBLE STUDIES	28	29	30
31	Happy New Year!					