

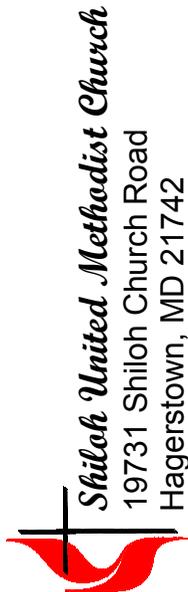
Church Website Address: www.shilohumchagerstownmd.com

Pastor Ken's E-mail Address: kfizer@minister.com

Church E-mail Address: shilohumc@myactv.net

Pastor Ken's Office: (301)797-4083 & Cell: (301)991-7839

Morning Worship @ 9:15am — Church School @ 10:40AM



J U L Y - A U G U S T 2 0 1 2

Shiloh Church Newsletter!

Dear Shiloh Members & Friends,

As we, together, seek to build the Kingdom of God at Shiloh U.M.C., I want to share the results of the research study done on church health by the Billy Graham School Missions, Evangelism, and Church Growth:

1. Major on Majors

I have seen church members focus their energies on some of the most insignificant issues. Some members demand their brand of music. Others get irritated when the order of worship is changed. Some members will complain when a minister does not make every telephone call he is expected to make. Others fuss when the sermon goes five minutes too long. Some members seem to worship their buildings and location. Others seem to have forgotten how to worship God. And in the meantime, tens of thousands die to face a Christless eternity, and so few church members seem to care.

The experience of listening to the formerly unchurched and of studying churches that reach the unchurched was a joy, because these churches tend to major on majors. Other issues are treated, as they should be, as minor. Churches that reach the unchurched keep their priorities in order and their goals in clear view.

2. Be Biblical, Conservative and Convictional

Churches that reach the unchurched are theologically conservative. They have a high view of Scripture. And their convictions about their beliefs are obvious.

A church can attempt many good contextual efforts to reach the unchurched, but if it does not have the foundations of a high view of Scripture, the efforts are either futile or transient.

3. Give Evangelism Priority and Passion

What do vibrant churches have in common? They all make evangelism a priority. I have visited all of these churches. Though they all agree on the key doctrines of the Christian faith, they do have theological differences. Their worship styles range from traditional to blended to contemporary. Their common bonds, however, include a conviction of the authority of God's Word and a passion for evangelism.

4. Provide Deep Biblical Teaching

The evidence and data are clear. Both the formerly unchurched and the leaders of the Churches that reached them verified the efficacy of "meaty" teaching and preaching to reach the unchurched and to strengthen the Christians.

Continued to page 2

Shiloh U.M.C. Vision Statement

Having experienced firsthand the redeeming love of God, Shiloh United Methodist Church feels compelled to share that love with others by making disciples of Jesus Christ through growth, outreach and ministry to our community and world.

5. Develop an Effective and Comprehensive Small-Group Ministry

The formerly unchurched told us they were attracted to small groups for two reasons: They desired further biblical teaching and training, and they sought to develop relationships with other Christians. Small groups dramatically impact the effectiveness of a church's outreach and assimilation. And in the churches we studied, Sunday School was the dominant expression of small groups.

What does this information say to churches that desire to reach the unchurched? It tells us that a comprehensive and effective small-group strategy is imperative.

6. Discern Patterns of Relationships in Your Own Church

One of the many surprises of our study was that one of the best connections to reach the unchurched was Christian wives reaching their unchurched husbands. We often think of the unchurched as people in totally pagan backgrounds who have no connection with the church. What our study told us was that many of the unchurched might be living in the same homes as our church members.

7. Check Your Facilities

The formerly unchurched spoke cogently of the necessity of having neat, clean, and updated facilities to reach people. "I saw a lot of things through unchurched eyes before I became a Christian a few months ago. What surprised me was how many churches let their facilities and their landscaping go to the dogs. It was as if they were advertising "we don't care" by the way they looked. I sure didn't go back to those places."

Have an outsider look at your facilities honestly and objectively. Ask her to go to the restrooms, kitchen, sanctuary, and offices. Let her look at classrooms and preschool space. Ask her opinion about the grounds and landscaping.

Realize that one of the most critical areas for cleanliness, attractiveness, and modern equipment is the preschool. Dozens of formerly unchurched people told us that the quality of the preschool was one of the key issues that attracted them to a church. Signage is important to the unchurched as well. A few thousand dollars invested in a quality outdoor sign and indoor directional signs are wise expenditures. The unchurched are often terrified to come to a strange church. As unlikely as it may sound, good signage could make an eternal difference in someone's life.

8. Cultivate a User-Friendly Greeter Ministry

The formerly unchurched appreciated the presence of greeters. Listen to some of their specific recommendations and preferences:

- ◇ Greeters should be clearly identifiable, with coats, badges, or some other type of clear marking.
- ◇ Provide a welcome center with good and updated information on the church.
- ◇ Make certain your greeters represent a cross section of ages. Most churches tend to have mostly senior adults serve as greeters.

9. Keep the Friendliness Issue Before the Church

If we Christians on earth could attain sinless perfection, we would not need reminders to be happy and friendly. Meanwhile, church leaders must remind members to be friendly at all times. One smile, one kind word could make an eternal difference for an unbeliever.

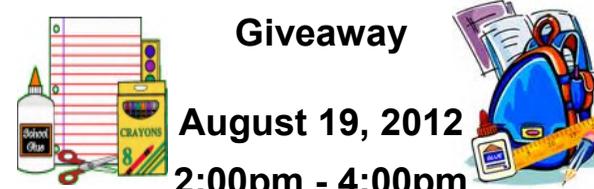
As I have said elsewhere, every church I have ever visited or consulted thinks it is friendly. These false perceptions are based on how members treat each other in the church. They do not see themselves from the perspective of an outsider. They do not realize that, while they speak to people they know and people they see each week, the outsider has no such connections. They need to be

School Supplies

Shiloh United
Methodist Church

(off Old Forge Road, Hagerstown, MD)

**FREE School Supply
Giveaway**



**August 19, 2012
2:00pm - 4:00pm**

Elementary children

Call: 301-797-4083

(for more information)



K*ids Corner!

BACK TO SCHOOL

C	S	C	D	T	N	E	D	U	T	S	R	D	Y	K	I	F	K
J	P	R	T	L	M	C	W	J	B	N	W	M	O	G	Y	M	J
T	A	A	E	E	A	M	Y	Z	G	Q	U	I	Z	Z	E	S	C
O	N	Y	W	C	B	S	E	S	S	A	L	C	S	B	L	R	L
M	I	O	B	R	N	A	Z	X	G	A	B	L	O	O	H	C	S
E	S	N	L	E	I	E	H	I	F	L	M	T	U	D	Z	O	C
J	H	S	A	B	O	T	I	P	R	A	M	M	A	R	G	R	E
V	U	A	C	R	X	V	I	C	L	K	J	E	W	S	E	N	S
M	F	F	K	E	T	S	S	N	S	A	X	F	P	P	G	C	T
R	N	W	B	H	Y	W	A	L	G	E	B	R	A	L	F	Q	I
E	O	C	O	C	H	B	Z	X	X	Y	P	I	Y	S	Y	H	
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F	W	S	B	A	T	G	S	S	U	H	J	M	G	D	M	Z	M
U	R	E	R	A	S	E	R	L	Q	J	D	F	Y	S	T	A	K

ALGEBRA
ALPHABET
ART
BLACKBOARD
CHALK
CLASSES
CRAYONS
ENGLISH
ERASER
EXAMS
FRENCH
GEOGRAPHY
GRAMMAR
GYM
HISTORY
MATH
NOTEBOOK
PAPER
PENCIL
QUIZZES
READING
SCHOOLBAG
SCIENCE
SCISSORS
STUDENT
SPANISH
TEACHER
TUTOR
WRITING



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

July	August
6 Jessica Barnhart	1 Ralph Poe
6 Timothy Frey	2 Herbert Chalker III
7 Abigail Butts	2 Thelma Chalker
8 Jacob Doyle	3 Nathan Frey
8 Joseph Miller	3 Sarah Snouffer
9 Hollie Zimmerman	4 Jane Stoner
10 Paul Kifer Sr.	6 Grace Priest
12 Linda Kline	6 Tara Parks
13 David Needy	9 Doris Snouffer
19 Ginger Frey	10 Karen Price
21 Mary Barnhart	11 Amanda Hall
24 Larry Dentler	16 Cindy Beckwith
25 Logan Unger	16 Jeanne Renner
26 Walter Taylor	17 Bobby Noble
27 Mark Frey	17 Linda Ridenhour
29 Debbie Doyle	20 Ashley Doyle
30 Marvin Ridenour	21 Mary Appel
30 Patricia Brown	22 Donna Gaylor
30 Rebecca Hebb	27 Clyde Griffin
	28 Rick Taylor



Happy Anniversary

July

16 John & Brenda Clevenger

21 Clyde & Karen Griffin

August

1 Jimmy & Cindy Koontz



BAPTISM & RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

BAPTISMS:

Shelby Koontz

19850 Reidtown Road
Hagerstown, MD 21742

Bambi & Max Baker

1106 West Church Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740

NEW MEMBERS:

Jeremiah & Bambi Baker

1106 West Church Street
Hagerstown, MD 21740
(received as confessions of faith)

reminded each week to be friendly. Nearly four out of five formerly unchurched told us that the friendliness of the church was a factor in their becoming Christians.

10. Seek Excellence

The fellowships of many churches have become havens for mediocrity. The formerly unchurched were completely turned off by poor music, unkempt facilities, poorly prepared sermons, and ill-equipped Sunday school teachers. The typical American unchurched person has come to expect excellence in the business world, in the marketplace, and in the entertainment industry. Often we heard the formerly unchurched voice surprise that God's church would accept anything that did not approach excellence.

11. Provide an Inquirers' New Members' Class

The formerly unchurched, for the most part, gladly attended an inquirers' class prior to their becoming Christians. By the time they were courageous enough to visit a church, they were eager to learn more about the church. Most of the effective churches in our study combined the inquirers' class with a new members' class. We need to remember that an unchurched person who visits our churches typically has an insatiable appetite to learn more.

12. Expect Much/Receive Much

Churches that reach the unchurched are high-expectation churches. Their members are excited and fulfilled Christians. They belong to an organization that makes a difference. They gladly share their faith, invite friends and family members to church, and generally express excitement about their church. Leaders of these churches do not hesitate to ask members to get involved in ministry. They constantly urge them to develop a witnessing lifestyle.

High-expectation churches receive much because they expect much. The unchurched are in turn attracted to churches where the people are excited about their faith and the church where they serve.

13. Know Your Church's Purposes

Churches that reach the unchurched know the purposes for which the church exists better than comparison churches. We categorized the six major purposes of the church according to Acts 2:42-47:

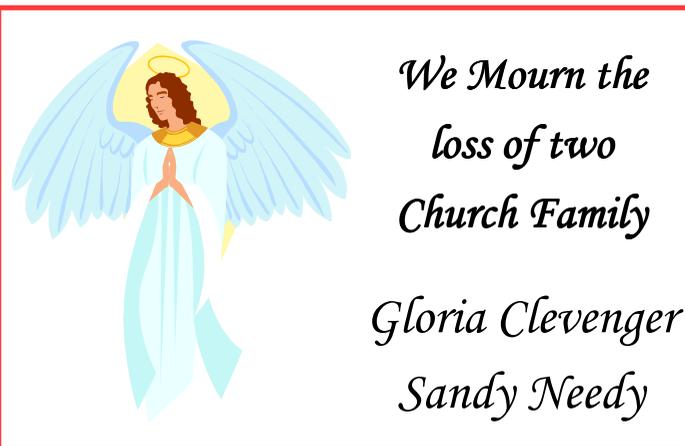
- | | | |
|--------------|------------|--------------------------|
| ◇ Worship | ◇ Prayer | ◇ Fellowship |
| ◇ Evangelism | ◇ Ministry | ◇ Discipleship/equipping |

A church that understands its purposes is more likely to evaluate itself according to those purposes. If the people of the church truly understand that evangelism is one of their major functions, they will ask questions if lost people are not being reached, and they will seek to be more effective in that area.

How do leaders help the people of the church learn the purposes of the church? They write mission statements. The pastors preach it, and the teachers teach it. They put it on publications. They repeat it. The purpose-driven church is more likely to be an unchurched-reaching church.

14. Foster Ministry Involvement

The formerly unchurched told us in many ways and many times, "We don't want to sit on the sidelines." These new Christians are incredibly eager to get involved, and their enthusiasm is contagious. Unfortunately, some churches do a fair job of reaching the unchurched only to see them leave within a few months. Many of these churches have rigid and antiquated rules that prohibit ministry involvement of new members. I understand that new Christians should not be made Bible teachers



*We Mourn the
loss of two
Church Family
Gloria Clevenger
Sandy Needy*

Immediately. But why not get them involved in a greeter ministry? I promise their smiles will not be forced. Why not get them involved in an evangelism ministry? They probably know more unchurched people than anyone else in the church.

15. Never Forget the Power of Prayer

Prayer is the key to reaching the unchurched. I rarely heard from an effective church that did not have a strong emphasis on prayer.

Evangelizing the unchurched is spiritual warfare. Satan will do anything he can to hinder someone from becoming a believer. Only prayer can effectively break the bonds of complacency, tradition, and nit-picking that keep a church's focus off evangelism.

Most of the effective churches in our study not only had pervasive prayer ministries; they made certain these prayer ministries included a specific focus on lost and unchurched persons.

Prayer is powerful. And prayer is a requisite to reach the unchurched.

Let's all work together to make these 15 drivers for effective ministry priorities for our church family!

In Christ's Service,

Pastor Ken



Happy Hearts Luncheon

Shiloh Church Social Hall

Tuesday

July 17th at 11:30 am

Come join us for Food, Fun and Spiritual Fellowship

"CALLING ALL CARS"

... Antiques Cars - that is

Mark your calendars

Shiloh Fun Fest

Saturday, September 15th

8:00am to 2:00pm

Antique and Classic Car Display

Flea Market/Yard Sale/Crafts

Breakfast Menu/Lunch Menu

Music / Children's games and Activities

Fun for Everyone!

If you or someone you know has an antique or classic car to display please contact:
Ginger Frey (301) 824-6241

Flea Market/Yard Sale/Craft spaces will be available for a cost of \$10, please contact:
Dianne Keller (301)824-7074

We hope this will be a successful fundraiser and any help you can offer would be appreciated!

"Our Olympic Spirit"

...The theme for this years Deaf/Blind Camp (June 10-15, 2012). As the campers arrived they drew a visor from a bag, this is the color of the team there were on; red, green, yellow, blue or black. Each day they had their own Olympic games earning points. The metals were handed out at the dance (Thurs) by the camps special guest, Cody Colchado, Jr., a paralympian, and 24 time World Champion Power Lifter for the Blind. Yes, he is blind; lost his sight due to a football injury. He had two motivating workshops on Thursday morning with seven key points:

A is for Attitude

B is for Believe

C is for Courage, Confidence

D is for Determination

E is for Education

F is for Fitness

G is for Goals

Fun was had by all and the weather was perfect, rained Tuesday afternoon while the campers were either bowling or at the Annapolis Mall. My highlight was meeting the Olympians.