

Fifth Taste of Shiloh Festival Held

More than 50 members of Shiloh Church in Smyrna, Ga., took time from their busy Sunday, November 1, 2015, to participate in the church's fifth Taste of Shiloh Festival (TOSF). It was hosted by Comprehensive Health Ministry (CHM), under the direction and leadership of Pauline Cooke, R.N. TOSF is a community outreach festival with a health expo focus, and was established to reach the surrounding community, neighbors, and friends.

This year, 300 people attended the festival, with the majority being neighbors and friends from the community. There were approximately 60 vendors selling and/or giving away products, including CHM, which offered free health screenings for BMI, cholesterol, blood pressure, and diabetes from nurses and healthcare professionals.

The health screenings were a blessing, as the CHM team, which includes physicians, managed to give a preliminary diagnosis of a vascular-related problem to a particular woman from the community with no prior history. The woman was encouraged to get follow-up care at the emergency room, as her preliminary diagnosis indicated a potential medical emergency if left untreated. The CHM team did post-event follow-up with this woman to make sure she received her exact diagnosis and was managing her treatment plan. The unnamed woman was very grateful to the CHM and TOSF team for their prompt action and confidentiality.

There was similarly a heartwarming review from a chiropractor who was also a vendor. She remarked that TOSF was one of the most nicely presented health expos she had attended, and further stated, "I am blown away by the attendance of the community and the efficiency of this event, despite the rain outside."

Shiloh's Pathfinders and Mount Pisgah Church's mission group introduced their respective ministries. Vendors Dick and

Stephanie Stephenson of Omus Originals (wood creations) donated all monies collected from their sales back to TOSF, as did The Simple Gentlemen, a lapel-making company owned by Shiloh young adult Rashunda Alexander. This product caught the eye of special guest Chesley McNeil, 11 Alive news meteorologist. He was impressed by her lapels, and left with a gift from her company.

Unfortunately, the rain meant that the children were not able to enjoy their planned outside activities. However, they had a fantastic popcorn-and-movie time with David Smith, followed by story time with Jahaira Davis, Shiloh's children's

Hall, D.N.P., gave an insightful seminar about preventing and managing diabetes; and Andrew Chung, Ph.D., M.D., spoke on cardiovascular health, which included a demonstration of simple exercises that can improve cardiovascular health. Andrea Gibbs-Brooks, M.A., L.P.C., N.C.C., presented a lively discussion on "Healthy Family — Successful Community"; followed by "HIV and Minority Population," by Ndidi Nwangwu-lke, M.P.H., P.M.P. Shiloh's Rose M. Heacock, M.O.T., O.T.R./L., provided an introduction into occupational therapy. Rose and the Praise4All Ministry were a part of the entertainment line-up, "Worship in Song and



American Sign Language." Praise4All is a ministry for children, youth, and adults, dedicated to helping the deaf and spiritually deaf be blessed by the glory of God.

As a follow-up to TOSF 2015, Drake Barber, pastor, and his pastoral team, alongside the TOSF team, donated *Message Magazine* subscriptions to registered community neighbors and friends who attended the Festival.

Throughout the day, the American Red Cross blood drive was coordinated by Vevyette Constable, R.N. The drive received a donation of 38 units — including three people who donated two units each.

Additionally, various professionals gave 20-minute seminar presentations related to their respective professions. These seminars included "Brain Health" by John Patrickson, Ph.D. (neurophysiology), Morehouse School of Medicine; Edward Layne, M.D., gastrointestinal physician and founder of My Preventive Health, who provided insight in the preventive health arena; and Elicia Archer, B.A., M.P.H., who spoke on the "World of Wonder" in Nutrition, which flowed well with the many health food demonstration booths. Octavia Taylor shared information on breast cancer in the black community; Marilyn

The success of Taste of Shiloh Festival 2015 is credited to the Lord, Who commissions believers to go into all the world and preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ, along with the charge from the Spirit of Prophecy in *Ministry of Healing*, page 143: "Christ's method alone will give true success in reaching the people. The Saviour mingled with men as One Who desired their good. He showed His sympathy for them, ministered to their needs, and won their confidence then He bade them 'follow Me.'"

Thank you to all neighbors and friends for attending this event. Check Shiloh Church's website at www.tasteofshiloh.com for the TOSF 2016 event, or email tasteofshiloh@gmail.com.

BY NOMVULA-GRACE COX