

“NEW SHILOH’S CHURCH POLICY”

As Baptists, there are a lot of customs and traditions that are important parts of our worship. Some are cultural, some pious customs; some are essential and some are not. But let’s work together to ensure that each worshipper at New Shiloh Missionary Baptist Church gets to enjoy the service and learn the message that is being presented.

Standing or Sitting

- We stand during Prayer, Scripture, Statement of Belief, and Moment of Fellowship

Entering the Sanctuary

- Generally, we do not enter the sanctuary during:
 - Prayer, Scripture, Tithes and Offerings, Statement of Belief, Moment of Fellowship, Invitation to Discipleship, Communion, and Baptism
 - Sermon – if sermon is being delivered, enter through side doors and sit quietly in back
- Follow the directions of the Ushers as it is their responsibility to ensure that each guest has a great worship experience.
- In and Out is the name of a hamburger place somewhere in California; it should not characterize the traffic pattern through our church during services. It sometimes seems that our church has a revolving door; it is used by both children and adults.
- Refrain from walking needlessly during the Worship Service by using the restroom before coming into the sanctuary or immediately upon arrival.
- Refrain from getting a drink of water during the services
- Refrain from “talking” with other members regarding church business, unless absolutely necessary.

Leaving Before the Dismissal

Leaving the church before dismissal is not only rude, but it deprives us of our blessings. Worship has a beginning and an ending. We live in a fast paced world where we seem to be hurrying from place to place. We deprive ourselves of blessings by not being still and participating in God’s holiness. Eat and run at McDonald’s – but stay in the sanctuary to partake of God’s precious gifts and thank Him for them.

Talking During Church

Isn’t it great to come to church and see friends and family members? But wait until after worship service to “talk” with them. It is not appropriate to have conversations with people during the worship service. Besides being disrespectful to God, it is rude to the other people who are trying to worship.

Pew Blocking

Never heard of pew blocking? It is the practice of sitting right next to the aisle so that no one else can get by or sit in the middle of the pew. So that we don’t disrupt the worship experience for worshippers, we ask each worshipper to simply move towards the middle of the pew, leaving the aisle seats for those coming later. Remove purses, bibles, coats, and baby carriers from taking up space on pews. Parents, the Ushers will be more than happy to place your baby seat/carriage in the back during the worship service.

Snacks for Children/Adults

It used to be that you could always tell where young children have been sitting in the church. The telltale signs were food crumbs left behind. However, today it seems that adults are also eating “snacks” or drinking water or some other beverage during the workshop service. We understand that parents sometimes bring snacks or juice along for young children during the services. However, if you or your child must eat, please go to the fellowship hall. You will be able to hear the church services. Please clean up your area before leaving the church.

Fellowship

Fellowshipping with our new members is indeed a joyous occasion and we can’t wait to welcome them into our church fold. However, it is important that we follow protocol. The welcoming and greeting of new members begins with the Deacons and Trustees, Ministers Wives and Deaconess, and Choir followed by the Congregation. Please continue to follow the directions of the Ushers.

A Final Thought

There are surely a lot of other areas that could be covered here, but keep in mind that most of Church etiquette is based on common sense and on showing respect for God and others. Always remember that you are in the temple to worship God.