

# The Pilgrim Messenger

August, 2006

Volume I, Issue 9

**ALL ARE WELCOME !**  
*“A Church Inspired by  
the Word and  
Empowered by the  
Spirit!”*



**PILGRIM  
BAPTIST  
CHURCH**

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Phone: (815) 968-4449

## MINISTERIAL STAFF

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*Senior Pastor/ Servant Leader*

- Minister Steve Cossey
- Minister Angela Davis
- Minister Sheri Glover
- Minister Jacque Robinson
- Rev. Edward Wiley

## WEEKLY SERVICES

### WEDNESDAYS:

- 6:00 p.m.—Prayer Service
- 7:00 p.m.—Bible Study

### SUNDAYS:

- 9:00 a.m.—Sunday School
- 10:30 a.m.—Worship Service

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## MISSION “POSSIBLE” — A SUCCESS! *Pilgrim and Tabernacle Summer Youth Mission Project*

During the week of July 1, the youth of Pilgrim Baptist Church (Rockford, Illinois) partnered with the youth of Tabernacle Baptist Church (Carrollton, Georgia) for a powerful and successful Youth Mission Project. There were times of worship, outreach, mission work, fellowship — and just plain FUN! After the week was over, the youth were asked to comment on their experiences as below and on Page 3.

*By Deacon Ellen Farish of Tabernacle*

In addition to Pastor Jimmy Gentry and me, other youth leaders from Tabernacle were Allison Moody and Tommy Statham.

The Tabernacle youth were overwhelmed at how they were received and welcomed into the Pilgrim family. They experienced how important it is to create an atmosphere of acceptance. We have discussed this in terms of being better “inviters” to our church activities and how crucial it is to be open to new faces.

They were impacted in terms of realizing *how mission work is needed so close to home*. Our students hear about and experience foreign missions and sometimes forget the importance of reaching out to serve those just around the corner.

Our youth experienced the freedom to worship in a different style. In their opinion, the worship style of Pilgrim is much more “Spirit-filled” and “Spirit-led” than that to which they are accustomed.

The students thought Chicago was the best city they have ever seen, and a few are planning to relocate there as soon as they can convince their parents to move!!! Most importantly, they realized that the Body of Christ—the Family of Believers—is anywhere they go and that, even though things may look, sound, and seem different, we are all the same because of the bond we share in Christ. We intend to build on that awareness and broaden the horizons of Tabernacle’s student ministry. It was a phenomenal experience. Thanks be to God!

Pilgrim & Tabernacle Youth formed a close Christian bond!

Shown *Left to Right*:  
**Crystal Johnson**  
**Paulina Bennett**  
**Marquise Williams**  
**Jasmine Holifield**  
**Rebecca Farish**  
**Madison Robinson**  
*Kneeling: Hannah Farish*



*Note: All Photos in this issue by Patrick Johnson*

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HOW TO SUBMIT  
INFORMATION

We welcome your ideas, news items, and articles, which may be placed in the Newsletter mail slot near the church office. Our goal is that the *newsletter will be available on the first Sunday of each month*. Information is requested by the 15th of the preceding month.

All published information will have been reviewed and/or edited by the Pastor and the editorial staff.

WORDS  
FOR LIVING!

"You can preach a better sermon with your life than with your lips."

—Oliver Goldsmith

"The greatest gifts you can give your children are the roots of responsibility and the wings of independence."

—Dennis Waitley

## FOOD AND FUN DURING THE "BIG EVENT"

**Rebecca Payne & Andrew Dickerson** "take five" from their work at the July 4 "Big Event"



**Pastors Kenneth R. Board (Pilgrim) and Jimmy Gentry (Tabernacle)**  
*Popular dunk-tank targets!*



**Mothers Georgia Cooper and Lillie Martin** — *enjoying the "Big Event" and ever ready to share prayer or counsel.*



A MAJOR PART of the "Big Event" — "FOOD!"

Shown grilling and serving:

**Erick Hall**

**Addie Rufi**

**Charles Hunter**

## WHERE DID I SEE GOD THIS WEEK? *Comments from Pilgrim and Tabernacle Youth*

*By Sister Carmen Jordan of Pilgrim*

When asked to respond to the question, “**Where did I see God this week?**,” the youth of Pilgrim and Tabernacle really put some thought into their answers. The amazing thing is that many of the responses were that *they saw God in each other!*

**Jacqueline Walker** said she saw God in her Bible Study class during the Vacation Bible School: “*Everyone was so excited to talk about the Lord and what He had done. Everyone was happy — and you could tell that they had love for the Lord.*” Likewise, **Rebecca Weems** from Tabernacle said that she saw God in the members of Pilgrim: “*I saw Him in the members of Pilgrim. Everyone was so joyful and friendly. I don’t think I ever saw anyone without a smile on their face. You can see how much they love the Lord. They all really want to serve the Lord.*”



**Nicholas Gentry**  
... enjoying the “Big Event”

In speaking of faces, **Marquise Williams** said she saw God in everyone’s eyes. She stated, “*I can’t really look people in their faces; but this week, I took time to look and listen to one another. I saw God in every blue, gray, light, dark—every color eye! It was amazing to see how hard God was at work.*”

Another response that the youth had in common was that *many of them saw God at the Rockford Rescue Mission.* **Evon Sams** stated, “*In the short (worship) service, the people looked so happy to see us there, and I think the text was very powerful.*”

**Mary Beth Maxwell** of Tabernacle said that she saw God at the Rescue Mission as well. She said, “*I was sitting in my chair, and I was looking around at the people coming in. Then I saw a man who was reading his Bible. It made me think that, even though he has nothing, he still praises God.*”

As she served meals at the Rescue Mission, **Carrie Ware** noted, “*The people were so polite when they received their food, and they were helping each other (even) if they had a disability.*”

As a final note from the Mission Project Leadership Team, we saw God throughout the planning stages as well as throughout the week. The most shared response in our debriefing meeting was that we all marveled at the relationships and unity that were formed with each other, the youth, and the community. The way God brought unfamiliar people together to do unfamiliar tasks for one FAMILIAR purpose was amazing. We were all honored to be chosen to carry out the vision of the project. Also, we thank the **youth from New Zion Missionary Baptist Church** who blessed us with their help and fellowship during the “Big Event.”



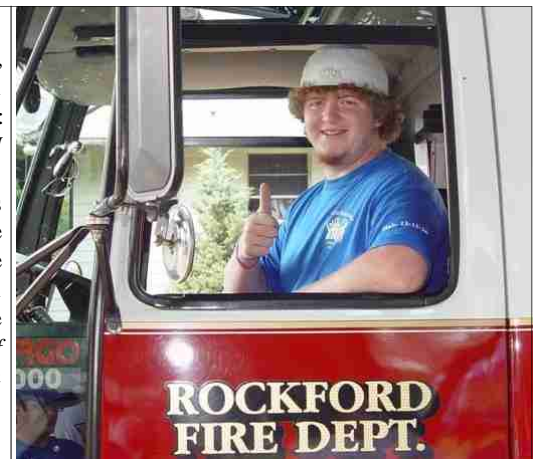
**Matthew Johnson and Evon Sams**  
pose for “Big Event” photo



**Shania Russell**  
*Pretty paint, pretty smile!*

**Jeremy Browning** of Tabernacle, shown sitting in the fire truck from Station No. 3, commented about his visit: “*Actually, I wish we could stay longer. I just love Pilgrim!*”

The truck was driven to Pilgrim’s July 4 “Big Event” by Fireman Steve Bliven. “Little ones” and “big ones” were attracted to the truck, and children played in the water sprayed from the truck’s hose. *Deacon Ernest Evans of Pilgrim is also a Fireman with Station No. 3. (See photo on Page 4.)*



**NEW! . . . FOR BIRTHDAYS**

We will now publish two months of birthdays in each issue — birthdays for the current month and the following month. Since each month's birthdays will be printed in two different newsletters, corrections or additions may be made before the second month. Just put your information in the Newsletter Mail Slot near the church office.

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL OF YOU!**



**August**

- 1 Helen Ware
- 3 Eugene Rigsby
- 3 Deacon Ernest Evans
- 7 Carvin Tenard
- 9 Christopher Tenard
- 10 Jean Gaynor
- 12 Herman Aliprandi
- 12 Shirley Aliprandi
- 25 Juanetta Jones
- 26 Christyn McEastland
- 28 Christopher Reed

**September**

- 4 Minister Sheri Glover
- 13 Maya Johnson
- 24 Jasmine Holifield
- 27 Armauri Bryant

**Pastor Board's Birthday**

A surprise birthday party was held for Pastor Board after morning worship on July 9, as he was busy hosting our Tabernacle guests on **his July 1 birthday!**

**JULY 4 "BIG EVENT" AT PILGRIM**



Shown L to R:

**Dawana Johnson, Carmen Jordan, Ernest Evans, Terry Wilkerson Marilyn Board Steve Bliven**

*(Steve Bliven and Deacon Ernest Evans are fire-fighters with Rockford Station 3.)*

**EVENTS CALENDAR**

*Also see "Weekly Services" on Page 1*

**AUGUST, 2006**

- 05 Sat. 10:30 am—Church Family Meeting
- 06 Sunday 10:30 am—Morning Worship (*Communion*)
- 12 Sat. (Daytime)-Unlimited Praise at Levings Park
- 12 Sat. (Daytime)-Mass Choir at Bookerfest
- 13 Sunday 10:30 am—Morning Worship (*Unlimited Praise*)
- 13 Sunday 4:00 pm—**Pilgrim at Ephesians** (Pastor's Anniv)
- 20 Sunday 10:30 am—Morning Worship (*Pilgrim Steppers*)
- 26 Sat. (Daytime)—**Pilgrim's 89th Anniversary Picnic**
- 27 Sunday 10:30 am—Morning Worship (*Unlimited Praise*)
- 27 Sunday 4:00 pm—**Pilgrim 89th Anniversary Worship**  
*Guests: Bishop John F. Senter & Providence Baptist Church*

**SEPTEMBER, 2006**

- 16 Sat. 9:00 am-Noon— Church Discipleship Training and Spiritual Gifts Discovery

**JANUARY, 2007**

- 19 Friday ) Off-site Church Leadership Retreat
- 20 Sat. ) *(Location and details will follow.)*

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