

The Pilgrim Messenger

SEPTEMBER, 2006

Volume I, Issue 10



**PILGRIM
BAPTIST
CHURCH**

1703 S. Central Avenue
Rockford, IL 61102
Phone: (815) 968-4449

MINISTERIAL STAFF

Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Board
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

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

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- Hallelujah Party
- 90th Anniv. Plans
- Pictorial Directory

Pilgrim Announces The 2006 E. H. E. GILBERT LECTURE SERIES

The **2006 E. H. E. Gilbert Lecture Series** will begin at **6:00 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday — September 27, 28, and 29** — at Pilgrim Baptist Church, 1703 South Central Avenue.

Rev. Dr. E. H. E. Gilbert, Pastor of the Pilgrim Baptist Church from 1944 until his retirement as Pastor Emeritus in 1990, started the annual “teaching and preaching” sessions at Pilgrim.

As a testament and memorial to the legacy of the late Rev. Gilbert (*or “Rev” as he was fondly called by many*), the annual “preaching and teaching” sessions have been continued and titled the “E. H. E. Gilbert Lecture Series.”

Rev. Gilbert was many things to Pilgrim and to the Rockford community— pastor, friend, scholar, theologian, historian, advocate for youth and education, fighter for justice—to name a few. He was also a visionary, knowing that the church and community could continue to rise.

Under Rev. Gilbert’s leadership, the present church home at 1703 South Central Avenue was envisioned, planned, and constructed. Ground-breaking was done in 1960, and Pilgrim marched to its new home in 1961. Following is an excerpt from a message Rev. Gilbert penned for Pilgrim’s 1960 celebration booklet, entitled “*From the Dust.*”

“We have also discovered that man must have something for which to live, something worth the sacrifice of one’s life, yet so eternal as to be able to save that life. From the dust, from the good clean earth, we have raised to the glory of God a House of Praise, a Monument of Worship. In the building of it, we have resurrected hopes and dreams as we sought to express our love of God and all humankind. By faith in God and trust in each other, we rise with our Church. To our children, we pass on the promise and the challenge of the future.”

The lecturers and preachers who participate in the E. H. E. Gilbert Lecture Series communicate many of the tenets shared by Rev. Gilbert, as they focus on Youth, Family, and Missions.



Rev. Dr. E. H. E. Gilbert

See more information on Page 2.

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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

“Education is learning what you didn’t even know you didn’t know.”

—Daniel J. Boorstin

“The time is always right to do what is right.”

—Martin Luther King, Jr.

“Truth has no special time of its own. Its hour is now—always.”

—Albert Schweitzer

PILGRIM CELEBRATED 89 YEARS!

Pilgrim celebrated its 89th year during the month of August, 2006, beginning with a picnic on church grounds Saturday, August 29, and culminating in a Special Anniversary Program on Sunday, August 27.

Special guests for the Sunday program were the Pastor of Providence Baptist Church, Bishop John F. Senter, Providence members, and Choir, Symbols of Joy.

Pilgrim marched to the present home at 1703 South Central Avenue in March, 1961 from the building still located on the corner of Morgan and West Streets. (A brief history of Pilgrim was published in a Special Anniversary issue of *“The Pilgrim Messenger”*, copies of which are available at the church.)



Pilgrim Baptist Church members shown in front of the building on West & Morgan Streets in 1960

SCHEDULE FOR THE E. H. E. GILBERT LECTURE SERIES—2006

Biblical Text: Ephesians 4:10-12

This year’s series is being coordinated by Mr. E. H. E. “Skip” Gilbert, Jr. and the Lecture Series Committee, who have announced the following schedule:

- Wednesday, September 27: **FOCUS: Youth & Singles**
 - 6:00 p.m. Lecturer: Rev. Virgil Woods
Allen Chapel AME Church—Rockford
 - 7:00 p.m. Preacher: Mr. James “Jimmy” Ford
Allen Chapel AME Church—Rockford
- Thursday, September 28: **FOCUS: Family**
 - 6:00 p.m. Lecturer: Rev. Chester Baker
Rockford
 - 7:00 p.m. Preacher: Rev. K. Edward Copeland
New Zion Missionary Baptist Church—Rockford
- Friday, September 29: **FOCUS: Missions**
 - 6:00 p.m. Lecturer: Mrs. Shirley (Wright) Masongezi
Missionary in Africa (*and one of Pilgrim’s “own”*)
 - 7:00 p.m. Preacher: Rev. Louis Malone
St. Luke Missionary Baptist Church—Rockford

The program format allows for a question-and-answer period after the lectures and refreshments and fellowship at the conclusion of each night’s program. **Pilgrim members and the entire community are invited to participate in these very rewarding sessions!** For more information, call the church at 968-4449.

Let's Celebrate BIRTHDAYS!

September:

- 04 Minister Sheri Glover
- 13 Maya Johnson
- 23 Letha Adams
- 24 Jasmine Holifield
- 26 Virginia B. Cooper
- 27 Armauri Bryant

October:

- 03 Jackie Tenard
- 06 Justin Morgan
- 06 TeShaude Sockwell
- 16 LaTisha McEastland
- 25 Lori Sockwell
- 29 Leona Charles

OOOPS, OOOPS, OOOPS!!!

Apologies are in order to **Mother Georgia Cooper and Bertha Bell** for omitting the following birthday and anniversary information they gave me in June during our off-site Leadership Retreat.

- July 7 - 50th Anniversary of Willie & Bertha Bell
- July 20- Mother Cooper's Birthday
- Aug 14- Bertha Bell's Birthday

We pray for God's continued blessings and many more years of celebrations!
 —Helen Ware, Editor

We were recently informed that **Charles and Patricia Fricks** are in Niagara Falls celebrating their 40th Wedding Anniversary, which was August 27. Congratulations to the Fricks!

15th Annual PIANO RECITAL

Mr. Donald Robinson will again showcase the accomplishments of his students who take piano lessons here at Pilgrim with the **15th Annual Piano Recital at 6:00 p.m. Sunday, September 10**, in the Church Sanctuary. Everyone is welcome!

Let's come out to encourage our students as well as show appreciation to Mr. Robinson for his many years of dedication.

**Pilgrim's First Lady: Mrs. Marilyn Board
 WOMEN'S DAY SPEAKER
 Sunday, September 24, 2006**

The Women of Pilgrim will celebrate their Annual Day during the **10:30 a.m. Morning Worship service on Sunday, September 24**, where the speaker will be Pilgrim's own First Lady, Mrs. Marilyn Board.



Mrs. Marilyn Board

Mrs. Board was born in Houston, Texas where she grew up in a nurturing Christian family who had a strong emphasis on Biblical studies and living to please the Lord. She attended Houston Public Schools and graduated from the University of Houston with a B.S. Degree in Organizational Behavior Management. After a number of challenging positions with AT&T and the Bell South Systems, she discerned God's call to education. This led to her successful pursuit of Teacher Certification and a Master's Degree from Mercer University in Atlanta. Mrs. Board currently teaches at Flinn Middle School in Rockford.

After coming to Rockford in October, 2005, Mrs. Board wasted no time in sharing her talents and ministry with Pilgrim and the community. She teamed up with other Pilgrim members to stage a successful Christmas play, *"The Reason for the Season."* She also shared a leadership role in the Youth Summer Mission Project with youth from Pilgrim and the Tabernacle Baptist Church of Carrollton, Georgia.

Mrs. Board cites Colossians 3:23 as God's mandate to us: *"And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily as to the Lord, and not to men."* Her ministry to the Body of Christ is threefold: (1) Intercessory Prayer; (2) Teaching; and (3) Sharing Christ through Lifestyle Evangelism.

**"An Evening of Praise"
 WITH EVON AND "LITTLE BROTHER"
 Sunday, September 24, 2006—5:00 p.m. at Pilgrim**

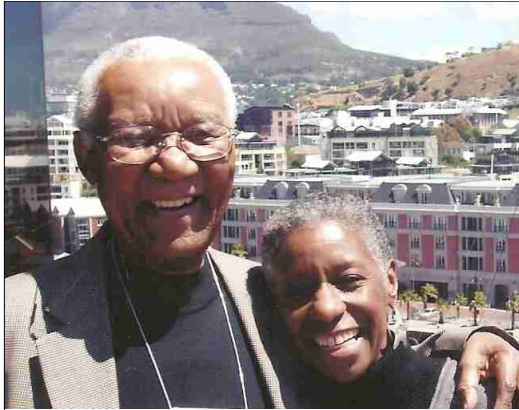
One of the many youth at Pilgrim who share with us the multitude of talents God has given them is Evon Sams as he plays his saxophone.

Evon and "Little Brother" (*as his saxophone is dubbed*) will bless the Pilgrim congregation and community with "An Evening of Praise" at **5:00 p.m. Sunday, September 24, 2006** at Pilgrim.

Evon has played the sax for four years, and he also plays the Baritone Sax and Cello. He was voted "Best Musician" by teachers and students at Ellis Arts Academy. He is an honor-roll student and will be going into the 8th grade at Ellis.

In addition to his musical and academic accomplishments, Evon is also proud to be a member of Pilgrim's Step Team and the Boys-to-Men Program. He is the son of Emma and Matthew Gentry and grandson of Mother Emma Gipson.





Daniel & Marci Kunene
Capetown, South Africa—2005

SENIOR SAINTS—ANNUAL DINNER

“Chosen to Serve, Challenged to Grow”

The Senior Saints’ Annual Dinner will be held at Pilgrim Baptist Church at **6:00 p.m. Saturday, September 23, 2006**. The speakers for this event, as announced by Mother Beulah Slaughter, President of the Senior Saints, will be Dr. Daniel and Mrs. Marci Kunene of Madison, Wisconsin.

Marci is one of Pilgrim’s own and is the daughter of Mrs. Carrie Ellis and the late Mr. James Ellis. Dr. Kunene is Professor Emeritus of the University of Wisconsin at Madison. The Kunenes will speak about their experiences in South Africa

The dinner is not just for our senior members—but is for all of Pilgrim and the community. Tickets may be obtained from “Saints” members and the church office — \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 12 and under. **Invite your family and friends!**

Pilgrim Celebrates FIRST FAMILY’S “FIRST!”

The First-Year Anniversary celebration of Pilgrim’s First Family—**Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Board, Senior Pastor, and Mrs. Marilyn Board**—will begin with a 6:00 p.m. social time and dinner on **Friday, October 6**, at the Paragon Restaurant on West State Street in downtown Rockford. Speaker for this event will be the Boards’ long-time friend, Mr. Gralin Davis of Gilbert, Louisiana.

During the 10:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. **Sunday Worship Services on October 8**, the Rev. Asriel McLain of Beaumont, Texas will speak.

We thank God for sending the Boards to us! More details will be forthcoming from the Anniversary Committee.

EVENTS CALENDAR

(Also see Weekly Services on Page 1)

SEPTEMBER, 2006

- | | | |
|----|----------|--|
| 03 | Sunday | 10:30 am—Morning Worship, Communion |
| 10 | Sunday | 10:30 am—Morning Worship, Youth Sunday
<i>Speaker: Rev. Richard Baker</i>
6:00 pm—Fall Piano Recital at Pilgrim |
| 16 | Saturday | 7:00 am—“Silver Chalice”, Ellis School (until 2 pm) |
| 17 | Sunday | 10:30 am—Morning Worship |
| 23 | Saturday | 9:00 am—Church-wide Discipleship Training |
| 23 | Saturday | 6:00 pm—Senior Saints’ Annual Dinner |
| 24 | Sunday | 10:30 am—Morning Worship, Women’s Day
<i>Speaker: Mrs. Marilyn Board</i>
5:00 pm—“Evening of Praise” with Evon Sams |
| 27 | Wed. | 6:00 pm—E.H.E. Gilbert Lecture Series |
| 28 | Thur. | 6:00 pm—E.H.E. Gilbert Lecture Series |
| 20 | Friday | 6:00 pm—E.H.E. Gilbert Lecture Series |

OCTOBER, 2006

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| 06 | Friday | 6:00 pm— First Anniversary Celebration for Pilgrim’s “First Family” at Paragon Restaurant
<i>Speaker: Mr. Gralin Davis (Louisiana)</i> |
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PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH



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