

The Pilgrim Messenger

December, 2011

Volume VI , Issue 12

PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH

1703 South Central Avenue
Rockford, IL 61102
815-968-4449
www.pilgrimbaptist.org



MINISTERIAL TEAM

Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Board
Senior Pastor

Minister Angela Davis
Minister Carmen Jordan
Minister Sharon M. Olson
Minister Willie Reed
Minister David Sidney
Minister Carl L. Towns

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Tuesday:

9:30 am—Bible Study

Wednesday:

12:00 Noon—Bible Study
6:00 pm—Prayer Service
6:30 pm—Adult Bible Study
6:30 pm—Youth Bible Study

Sunday:

9:00 am—Sunday School
10:30 am—Worship Service
10:30 am—Children's Church

**"A Church Inspired by the Word and Empowered by the Holy Spirit."
ALL ARE WELCOME!**

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Raising the Roof!

Thanks to prayers and sacrificial giving by Pilgrim members and friends, God has blessed the church to do urgently needed structural work.



The original project was to replace a 50-year-old roof, but the project was expanded to include new siding, building insulation, and structural repairs.

Pilgrim's Buildings & Grounds Committee is on top of things--literally--as evidenced by Deacon Roby Johnson (below left) as he inspects the new roof!



Photo by John Rasch



Two committed Pilgrim members, Deacon Roby Johnson and Daryl Mosley (right photo above), have served as the "go-to" persons for information about this project and will remain until completion.

Daryl Mosley had these comments: "Our new roof project started as scheduled on November 1 with tear-off demolition by the contractor, Kanga Roof. Once the total project is completed, our church will be under good cover from the ground to the peak.

"This project will add beauty and functional energy savings for us. The Lord has truly added another blessing to His house!"

In the "Pastor's Corner" message of November 27, Pastor Board said:

"Thanks to Deacon Roby Johnson and Daryl Mosley for their outstanding leadership in managing the roof project. They have been at the church daily while the contractors were working.

"Praise God for giving us a new building outside--a state-of-the-art steel roof and, by late December, new vinyl siding. This work should allow us to do ministry in this house for at least another 50 years without the need for new renovations. 'O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good, and his steadfast love lasts forever.'"

VISION STATEMENT:

The vision of the Pilgrim Baptist Church is the fulfillment of God's promise of salvation through the belief in the ministry of Jesus Christ and the empowerment of excellence in all people through Christian education and community activism.

EVENTS CALENDAR

PILGRIM OFFICE STAFF

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OTHER INFORMATION

News may be submitted to the Editor (as above) by the 15th of the preceding month. To receive the newsletter via e-mail, send request to editor.

Current and past issues are posted on Pilgrim's Website, managed by

Janie Wilson-Cook at www.pilgrimbaptist.org

DECEMBER, 2011

- 04 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship - Communion
- 11 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship
- 18 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship
- 18 **Sunday 4:00 pm - Annual CHRISTMAS Musical & Play (Free to all) ***
- 23 **Friday Church closed at 12:00 Noon**
- 25 **Sunday 10:30 am-11:30 am - CHRISTMAS Morning Worship - Communion ***
- 31 **Saturday 10:00 pm - 12:00 Midnight - WATCH NIGHT SERVICE ***



* Guest preacher for Watch Night Service will be Rev. Ronald Alexander, Pastor of Macedonia Baptist Church, Sterling, IL. Pastor Board is encouraging everyone to mark their calendars and bring family and friends to all of our holiday celebration services. **EVERYONE IS WELCOME!** Please call the church office with any questions.

JANUARY, 2012

- 01 **Sunday 12:00 Noon - 1:00 pm - NEW YEAR'S WORSHIP - Communion ***
- 08 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship
- 15 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship
- 22 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship
- 29 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship



*Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year
to all Pilgrim Members and Friends!*



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

All are birthdays unless stated otherwise!

DECEMBER, 2011

- 05 Shatika Floyd
- 05 Deacon Roby Johnson
- 07 Marlene Williams
- 09 Mother Orethay Avant
- 12 Randy Lundeen
- 16 Lorraine Thurmond
- 18 Erica Hall
- 19 Rhonda Smith
- 22 Ted and Angela Davis*
**(Wedding Anniversary)*
- 23 Curtis Sidney, Jr.
- 24 Karli Wright
- 24 Samantha LeShoure
- 25 Jesus, the Christ
- 26 Tiffany Fernandez
- 29 Stefan Howard
- 29 Elnora Newton
- 31 Jon Gallas

JANUARY, 2012

- 01 Kelli Jackson
- 01 Whit'ne Simpson
- 03 Queen Patterson
- 04 Michael Allen
- 05 Deacon Samuel Gaynor
- 07 Timothy Rogers
- 07 Terri Wilkerson
- 08 Ann Gilbert
- 09 Vicki Richard
- 12 Dr. Ted Davis
- 12 Dr. Vinest Steele
- 13 Debra Curry
- 16 Sharon Thurmond
- 22 Diedre Harvey
- 22 Minister Carmen Jordan
- 24 Mother Emma Gipson

CONGRATULATIONS, PILGRIM!



We have again won the Silver Chalice Challenge to retain the award for another year. Our thanks to the Black Healthcare Initiative for providing this opportunity for better health to all who participated.

Please join us in prayer for "PILGRIM NEEDS":

- New Baptismal Pool
- New Church Van
- Parking Lot Resurfacing
- Building Expansion
- Winter wear for our Lathrop School students



Let's also REMEMBER to pray for:

- Our sick, shut-ins, and bereaved
- Those in need throughout the year
- Our Troops

Everyone is Invited . . . to

An "Oh Christmas Tree" Time!

- ◆ **WHAT:** Annual Christmas Musical & Play
- ◆ **WHEN:** 4:00 p.m. Sunday, December 18, 2011
- ◆ **WHERE:** Pilgrim Baptist Church
 1703 South Central Avenue - Rockford, Illinois



Bring your family and friends to help celebrate the Christmas Season with an original evening of talent--produced and directed by Pilgrim's Special Projects Ministry.

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

“Journeyland” Visits St. Anne Residents

Children of Pilgrim’s *Journeyland* Ministry visited residents of Provena St. Anne Center on a Saturday in November. *Journeyland* is the children’s segment of Pilgrim’s *Children & Youth Ministry* (CYM) under the direction of Minister David Sidney.

CYM leader, Mrs. Albara Morris, planned this *Journeyland* outing to visit the sick and shut-in.

Other adults included Deacon Chris Morris, Deacon Eugene Rigsby, and Mrs. Staci Wright.

The residents were pleased to have the visitors who brought them a bag of goodies, and the children enjoyed talking with the seniors.

Information and photos provided by Deacon Chris Morris.



CYM Leader Albara Morris and Children with Mrs. Dorothy Newson (wife of Deacon Ben Newson)



Kennedy Stokes with Mrs. B.B. Owens (wife of Deacon Robert Owens)



Tiffany Fernandez visits with Lurlean Stamps



Curtis Sidney, Jr. and Barbara Benson

Church Family Year-End Meeting

Pilgrim’s “Church Family Year-end Meeting” was held on Saturday morning, November 12. This gathering affords an opportunity for members to find out how the church is doing bodily, spiritually, and financially and is an opportunity to give input during the question-and-answer period. It could really be called a “state-of-the-church” meeting.

Information was shared via written documents, demonstrations, and verbal and graphic presentations by members and some outside entities with which we do business, such as contractors, financial institutions, and community partners.



The meeting was called to order by Pastor Board, and scripture and prayer followed. Some of the presenters were Michael Kalodimos of Rockford Bank & Trust; Bryan Selander from the law firm of Schlueter Ecklund & Associates; Tonya Thayer, Executive Director of the Rockford Area Habitat for Humanity; and former alderman Victory Bell representing Pilgrim’s Promise CDC.

Vivette Hall, head of Pilgrim’s Trustee Ministry, reported on our financial structure and procedures and provided a handout of weekly receipts broken down by categories. Minutes of the last meeting were approved as read by Sharon Thurmond, Church Clerk.



Tonya Thayer of Habitat for Humanity cleared up some myths about this homeowner program—one of which is that the homes are “free” to owners. To the contrary, there are qualifications that must be met. In addition, the prospective owner must put in a certain number of hours doing actual work on the home. Pilgrim’s Promise CDC will be joining Habitat in constructing a home this coming spring on a lot on Island Avenue. Many Pilgrim members signed up to help.

Sasha Evans, a Pilgrim member, became a homeowner in 2011 and wrote a letter to Pilgrim about this blessing, which was read by Tonya. In addition to meeting all other criteria, Sasha and her family put in far more hours of “sweat equity” than required. Habitat’s Website at rockfordhabitat.org has detailed information about this program along with many photos.

At right, Pastor Kenneth R. Board thanks Michael Kalodimos of Rockford Bank and Trust for his unsolicited words of appreciation to Pilgrim on the way we handle our business.



Ministry Focus for 2012: "Discipleship: God's Mission, Our Passion!"
(Matthew 28:19 & 20)

NEW MEMBERS CLASS GRADUATES!

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS!

New members at Pilgrim commit to attending a 6-week training course taught by Mrs. Patricia Fricks and Minister Carl L. Towns (2nd and 3rd from right) who along with Pastor Board (right) welcomed this most recent class.

New members receiving certificates of completion are, from left, Dwight Foster; Joseph (Jose) Ortiz; and Mr. and Mrs. Roosevelt and Peggy Sims.

Class members absent were Helena Mindanao, Schawndolyn Smith, and Marlene Williams.



The Unlimited Praise dancers were a welcome part of morning worship on November 27. At left above is long-time Dance Ministry Leader, Mrs. Matti Chappel.

PILGRIM'S CHOIRS AND MUSICIANS!

Awesome!

Committed!

Below are Tony Tennyson (organ); Deacon Erick Hall (congas); Evon Sams (sax); and James Higgins (drums.)

Thanks to all of you for blessing us with your God-given talents!

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION



"Seniors" Helping "Juniors!"

Pilgrim's Senior Fitness and Fellowship Ministry is spearheading a collection of "Box Tops for Education" to benefit our adopted school, Lathrop Elementary.

These box tops are on various items we buy or already have on our shelves--i.e., the one shown here was on a box of Bisquick.

Schools redeem these box tops to purchase educational tools and library books. Please check your shelves and purchases for these box tops and then bring them to Pilgrim. Box tops may be put in the jar located in the narthex (near the Ushers' desk) or dropped off at the office. **(NOTE: The senior sessions will be suspended until January, 2012.)** Watch for further announcements!



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Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Board, Senior Pastor

