

The Pilgrim Messenger

January, 2012

Volume VII, Issue 1

PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH

1703 South Central Avenue
Rockford, IL 61102
815-968-4449
www.pilgrim baptist.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!*

INSIDE

- Events Calendar 2
- Birthdays/Anniversaries 2
- Ushers' Prayer Breakfast 2
- Men's Choir 2
- Renovation (cont'd.) 2
- Christmas Event 3
- Golden Apple Volunteers 3
- Nursery/Children's Church 4
- New Ministry Opportunities 4
- Winter Wear for Students 4
- Women's Crisis Center 4

Renovation Completed!



Image by Gary W. Anderson & Associates

The exterior renovation of Pilgrim was started on Tuesday, November 1, and was officially completed on Thursday, December 22. (See more on Page 2)

A CHRISTIAN HOUSE FIXED BY CHRISTIAN HANDS

By Lorraine Wilson, Member of Pilgrim's Office Staff

Pastor Board has, from "Day One," led our church family to pray for every little thing and every big thing. Overall, we are a praying church; so there was nothing new about this church family not only praying for financing our need for a new roof and building renovation but also praying for a reputable company to do the work.



Our prayers were answered by God as he led us not only to a reputable business but one that was staffed by Christian workers who were not ashamed of being Christian in public! Now that was a bonus!

The workers were friendly and respectful, and we (the office staff) were able to interact with them as they had access to the kitchen and restrooms. Some were inside while others worked outside. When eating inside, they were close enough to the office for us to overhear discussions about their work and how better to do some things. We also heard them thanking God for their

safety, especially during days when the wind was dangerously high; but, most of all, we were amazed that their discussions included actual Bible study and the sharing of testimonies.

We didn't tell Pastor Board, but we found ourselves listening in and praising God for them. All of

this made us view the workers with respect for knowing their craft and also for being men of God. This kindled a kind of security for us about Christian men taking care of God's house!

Overall, we are grateful for new acquaintances forged and for what we now call "The Word Overheard," which became our own Bible study time, unbeknown to the workers, of course. We are grateful for "a God who doeth all things well" and grateful to know there are still businesses with integrity that hire employees who reflect that integrity by giving their best for God's glory!

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.

PILGRIM OFFICE STAFF

Office Manager

Mrs. Beverly Owens
Phone: 815-968-4449
Fax: 815-968-2603
beverlyzsong@aol.com

Administrative Assistant

Mrs. Queen Patterson
815-968-4449

NEWSLETTER TEAM

Senior Editor/Advisor

Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Board
Senior Pastor

Editor and Producer

Mrs. Helen Ware
815-877-6593
h.f.ware@comcast.net

Associate Editor

Mrs. Beverly Owens
815-968-4449
beverlyzsong@aol.com

Photography:

Mrs. Helen Ware and
Contributing Photographers

Proofreader

Mrs. Jacquelyn Tenard

OTHER INFORMATION

Please submit news 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.pilgrim baptist.org

EVENTS CALENDAR

JANUARY, 2012

- 01 Sunday 12:00 Noon - 1:00 pm - NEW YEAR'S WORSHIP - Communion
- 08 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship - Leadership Installation - Speaker: Rev. Peggy Williams
- 08 Sunday 4:00 pm - Pilgrim at New Zion Baptist, Beloit, WI for Officer Dedication
- 15 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship
- 16 Monday Martin Luther King Day (Observed)
- 22 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship
- 29 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship

USHERS' COUNCIL
Annual Prayer Breakfast at Pilgrim
8:30-11:00 a.m.-- Saturday, February 4, 2012
Proceeds benefit Scholarship Fund
For tickets, see Greta Foster or any Usher.

FEBRUARY, 2012 (BLACK HISTORY MONTH)

- 04 Saturday 8:30-11:00 am - Ushers' Council Annual Prayer Breakfast
- 05 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship - Communion
- 12 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship
- 14 Tuesday Valentine's Day
- 19 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship
- 20 Monday President's Day (Observed)
- 22 Wednesday ASH WEDNESDAY
- 26 Sunday 10:30 am - Morning Worship



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

All are birthdays unless stated otherwise!

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
- 19 Kathleen Jamerson
- 22 Diedre Harvey
- 22 Minister Carmen Jordan
- 24 Mother Emma Gipson

FEBRUARY, 2012

- 01 Sonia Johnson
- 04 Noah Wheaton
- 07 Emma Gentry
- 08 Charlyne Blatcher-Martin
- 09 Monica Reed
- 10 Candace Edgeston
- 10 Keisha Whitaker
- 11 Mia Rigsby
- 12 Dawana Johnson
- 12 Bertha Rigsby
- 14 Phenique Lake
- 15 Erick Hall
- 16 Tealeta Garrett
- 17 Michael Blackmon
- 17 Rebecca Towns
- 18 Jacqueline Edwards
- 22 Melva Price
- 24 Staci Wright
- 25 Evelyn Huey
- 28 Ray Cooper
- 28 Evon Sams
- 28 Roosevelt Sims



RENOVATION COMPLETED!

(continued from Page 1)

This building remake included a new 50-year metal roof, new gutters and downspouts, insulation, and new siding all around.

God has blessed Pilgrim in a special way with the vision and leadership of Pastor Kenneth R. Board and the sacrificial giving by Pilgrim members and friends--PLUS this work was completed before winter weather set in! Deacon Roby Johnson and Darryl Mosely were project managers.

Blessings and kudos to all who worked together to make the renovation of this 50-year-old structure a reality. What a wonderful way to celebrate Pilgrim's 95th Anniversary this year!

PILGRIM MEN SING!



Pilgrim's Men's Choir blessed the congregation in morning worship and at the Christmas event on Sunday, December 18, with their rendition of "Silent Night." Shown are (back row, L to R,) Parnell Smith, Leonard Tolbert, Timothy Rogers, Deacon Roby Johnson; (front) Deacon Emeritus Carl O. Towns and Raymond Cooper.



"Oh Christmas Tree"



As expected, Pilgrim's Special Projects Ministry presented an outstanding 2011 Christmas production on December 18, entitled, "Oh Christmas Tree."

The large cast of children and adults delivered the true meaning of Christmas. A Nativity scene (*at right*) portrayed the birth of the Christ Child, with Amere Simpson as Joseph and L'Nia Brown as Mary. Instrumental music featured Tony Tennyson on keyboards; James Higgins on drums (including a special drum solo by 5-year-old Amore Simpson); and Evon Sams on sax and flute.



The celebration also included the voices of the Children's Choir (*above center*), the Mass Choir, and the ministry of dance by "Unlimited Praise."

Some of the adults and children who performed together are pictured above: Left, Rick Fernandez and daughter, Tiffany; and Lorraine Wilson and Ethan Lathan (*above right*.) Others are shown below. The Men's Choir wowed the audience with an impromptu repeat performance of "Silent Night" as they had done in morning worship.

In closing remarks, Pastor Board commended the Special Projects Ministry for sharing their gifts of excellence. This was underscored by the audience's enthusiasm and appreciation.

Special Projects Ministry members are Matti Chappel, Diedre Harvey, Bethanne Holifield, Mia Rigsby, and Staci Wright, President!

GOLDEN APPLE FOUNDATION

(The following information was contributed by Lori Berkes-Nelson, Executive Director of the Golden Apple Foundation, who will visit Pilgrim on Sunday, January 8, to share more details.)



The Golden Apple Foundation is a volunteer-driven organization that has been recognizing and supporting excellence in education since 1997. Today Golden Apple Foundation carries out its mission of inspiring, celebrating, and supporting educational excellence in 13 public school districts and over 40 non-public schools in Winnebago and Boone County through four core programs: Awards & Recognition; Teacher Academy; Classroom Grants; and Community Engagement. Over 400 volunteers and over 250 financial contributors make these programs happen each year. We are inviting you to participate in our programs that support great teachers and great students! Be a part of the Golden Apple Teacher Award Selection Process by observing in classrooms or interviewing teachers. It takes over 100 volunteers to select the Golden Apple Teachers each year. Participation dates for 2012 are:

- Sign up for all observers: January 10
- Training for new observers: January 11 or 12
- Classroom Observations: Jan. 23-Feb. 24
- Interview Teachers: Sat., Feb. 25

To volunteer, contact Lori Berkes-Nelson at Golden Apple Foundation, 5050 E. State St., Rockford, IL 61108 (815) 226-4180 or lbn@goldenappleofrockford.com

At right are mother & son La'Vonzele and Kennedy Stokes.



Left, Mrs. Hallie Williams and Amara Simpson.

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

PILGRIM TOTS NURSERY & CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Right: After his message during Children's Church in the Chapel of the Crosses on Sunday, December 18, Pastor Board took time for a group photo with the children and leaders. Leaders are, left to right, Deaconess Mia Rigsby, Virginia Pettigrew-Wheaton, and Deaconess Albara Morris.

Below: Kathleen Jamerson and Mrs. Marilyn Board guide Haylee Gallas in play and learning in the Pilgrim Tots Nursery. At age 4, Haylee will go to Children's Church.



NEW MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

In the February issue of the "Messenger," check out new Ministry Opportunities within and outside of Pilgrim to fulfill our 2012 Ministry Focus.

"Discipleship: God's Mission, Our Passion."
Matthew 28: 19 & 20

WINTER WEAR FOR STUDENTS

Winter is here! Let's be sure to bring ***new gloves, mittens, hats, and scarves*** to the church office for students at our adopted school, Lathrop. Help us to help our children stay warm this winter.

WOMEN & CHILDREN SERVED AT CENTER



Pilgrim has been serving an evening meal to residents of the Women's Crisis Center each fourth Thursday for three years! Most of the volunteers are from the Women's Ministry, but all are welcome to provide menu items or stay and help serve.

A special blessing on December 22 was when Lettie Mosely and her daughters offered to help at a time when we were short of those who could stay. They are shown serving in the upper left photo. Bottom left are some of the 65-plus grateful residents served that evening.



Above are those who delivered food and/or stayed to serve the meal. L to R are Clara Anthony, DaShanda Mosely, Lettie Mosely, Carol and Victory Bell, and Della Mosely (*who just completed her Masters' Degree.*) Others are La'Vonzelle Stokes, middle, and Angeline Whitelow, front. Helen Ware was the photographer and also a server.

