

The Pilgrim Messenger

November, 2012

Volume VII, Issue 11

PILGRIM BAPTIST CHURCH

1703 South Central Avenue
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MINISTERIAL TEAM

Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Board
Senior Pastor

Minister Angela Davis
Minister Ernest Evans
Minister Sharon M. Olson
Minister Willie Reed
Minister David Sidney
Minister Carl L. Towns

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

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

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Seven Years at Pilgrim

**Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Board
Mrs. Marilyn D. Board
Anniversary Celebration: Sunday, October 21, 2012**



The seventh Pilgrim anniversary celebrations for Rev. Dr. Kenneth R. Board and Mrs. Marilyn D. Board began with Pastor Board being assisted in baptizing four young men at the beginning of Sunday morning worship on October 21.

Guest speaker for that service was Minister Kevin D. Lambert, a seminary intern under the tutelage of Pastor Board and a member of West Side Church of God in Christ. Speaker for the 4:00 p.m. worship celebration service was Supt. Maurice West, Pastor of West Side C.O.G.I.C.

Between services, a delicious fellowship meal for West Side and Pilgrim was served by the Lydians Ministry. Pilgrim members and visitors honored the Boards in many ways—with favorite hymns, favorite praise medley by the Mass Choir, testimonials, and gifts. The Boards responded to these acts of love and appreciation with thanks and accolades for the faithfulness of Pilgrim's members.

Associate Minister Sharon Olson of Pilgrim wrote these words for the worship program:

Since late 2005, Pilgrim's Pastor and First Lady have brought many blessings to Pilgrim and the Rockford community!

"Pastor Board takes his inspiration for ministry from the prophet Jeremiah, who was called as a youth to serve the Lord. Try as he might, Jeremiah could not resist God's call upon his life and was compelled to speak the Lord's truth, even when it wasn't popular. . . . Like Jeremiah, he speaks God's truth in the community of Rockford and beyond. Any-

one who encounters Pastor Board knows that he wholeheartedly follows Jesus and is a pastor wherever he goes.

"Pastor also shows that he is a wise man by having married Lady Marilyn Board! Together, they exemplify what marriage can look like with Jesus at the center. Lady Board invests her time at Pilgrim in the Welcome and Nursery ministries and faithfully attends Bible studies and church events. Her faith, beauty, and dignity truly run deep."

Mrs. Board also works with Pilgrim community ministries in addition to being a Rockford middle-school teacher.

**Seventh Pastoral Anniversary Theme: Called to Serve
"O Lord, you induced me, and I was persuaded; You are stronger than I, and have prevailed." Jeremiah 20:7a (NKJ Version)**

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.

SPECIAL EVENTS & INFORMATION

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m./Communion on First Sunday

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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.pilgrimbaptist.org

■ **Sunday, November 4:**
Daylight Savings Time ends; set clocks back one hour at 2:00 a.m.

■ **Tuesday, November 6:**
Election Day - VOTE!



■ **Saturday, November 17:**
Leadership Council Meeting, 8:00 a.m. to Noon

■ **Sunday, November 18:**
Pastor Board speaks at the First Church of God in Freeport at 4:00 p.m.; third anniversary of Rev. Kevin Cooley

■ **Church closed November 22 & 23 -Thanksgiving**

■ **Grief & Loss Ministry Meetings**
- **Thu. 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.:** Nov. 15, 29 (& Dec. 20)
- **Sat. 10:30 - 11:00 a.m.:** Nov. 10, 24 (& Dec. 22)
Open to everyone who has suffered any loss; Sessions conducted by Minister Sharon Olson

NEWS BRIEFS

- Pilgrim's congregation traveled by bus to 2nd Baptist Church in Clinton, Iowa for their 125th Anniversary on Sunday, October 28. Pastor Board was guest speaker,
- The Special Events Ministry planned a "Trunk or Treat" event for Wednesday, October 31.
- Early in 2013, another "Health Challenge" opportunity will be provided by the Health Ministry. *(This will be a new chance to earn the same title that Shirley holds!)*
- Our Children and Youth Ministry (CYM) will make contributions to the newsletter beginning in 2013.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

All are birthdays unless stated otherwise!

NOVEMBER, 2012

DECEMBER, 2012

01 Ruby Brown	05 Shatika Floyd
02 London Smith	05 Deacon Roby Johnson
07 Mary Bonner	07 Marlene Williams
07 Stefani Howard-Smith	09 Mother Orethay Avant
07 Nicole Walker	16 Lorraine Thurmond
08 Jacci Mannery	18 Erica Hall
11 Joyce Bowden	19 Rhonda Smith
12 Janet Wyatt	22 *Dr. Ted & Minister Angela Davis
19 Michael Smith	*Wedding Anniversary
19 Jeanette Towns	23 Curtis Sidney, Sr.
23 Quintisha Hannah	24 Karli Wright
25 Forest Patterson, Jr.	25 Jesus, The Christ
27 Debra Simpson	26 Tiffany Fernandez
29 Lady Marilyn Board	28 Ethan Lathan
29 Hallie Williams	29 Stefan Howard
30 Randy Cook	29 Elnora Newton
	30 Deondra Harvey
	31 Jon Gallas

"Oh, Happy Day!"

Thanks to Students and Principal of Rockford Christian School!

Since their freshman year, the same group of students from Rockford Christian School have done community work for Pilgrim and/or some of its senior members. On September 27, these students, who are now in their senior year, came to help Pilgrim for the last time. Next year, there will be a new group of freshman students.

Pilgrim offers its sincere thanks to these students and Rev. Keith Jeske, Principal, who has taught them a life lesson about the blessings of giving! Rev. Jeske is the father of our own Matthew Jeske.

PILGRIM DEACONS: "CHANGING OF THE GUARD"

Deacon Samuel Gaynor, who has faithfully chaired Pilgrim's Deacons Ministry for 23 years under the leadership of three pastors, has decided it is time to step down! He had been a deacon for about 10 years prior to becoming Chair and will continue to serve as a deacon. Deacon Roby Johnson was voted unanimously by Deacons and Pastor to become Chair of Pilgrim's Deacons Ministry. He formerly served as Vice Chair. Deacon Oliver Emerson will now become Vice Chair.

The Deacons Ministry is vital to the quality of Pilgrim's worship experience. Some of their duties include assisting the Pastor with baptisms, conducting corporate and individual prayer, acting as decision counselors, serving communion during worship, and then going out to serve communion to sick and shut-in members. They also ensure the safety and security of members and visitors as well as the premises. At left is Deacon Roby Johnson, who has been blowing the shofar to signal the beginning of worship. At right (L to R) are Deacons Samuel Gaynor and Oliver Emerson.



Saving our Children

“But Jesus said, ‘Suffer little children, and forbid them not, to come unto me: for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.’” Matthew: 19:14 (King James Version)

Pilgrim recognizes that children and youth of today face many challenges and need love and training to help them grow up being healthy in mind, body, and spirit.

The church does not take the place of love and training children receive at home but, rather, supplements it to give them an opportunity to learn early who they are and Whose they are! Learning about the Lord boosts their self esteem and assures them they will always be loved.

The first teaching opportunity for children is in the Pilgrim Tots Nursery, coordinated by Mrs. Marilyn Board, before they “graduate” to Children’s Church.

Children’s Church is led by Deacon Christopher Morris (*right photo below*) and Mrs. Albara Morris (*at left*). Pilgrim’s clergy members take turns bringing a message.

Pastor Kenneth R. Board (*in left photo*) engaged the children during Children’s Church on Sunday, October 14. Other ministries geared to our children and youth include Sunday School; Youth Bible Study, led by Minister David Sidney; and Scout programs. A special Youth Hangout Zone, with computers and TV, was built especially for the youth as they receive training and engage each other in discussions. The confidence they gain equips them to participate in other ministries such as Special Events, the Mass Choir, Unlimited Praise, and Junior Ushers.

A plea to parents: Please allow Pilgrim’s dedicated ministry leaders to love and work with your children by bringing them to church!

“Train up a child in the way he should go; and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”
Proverbs 21:27



Children’s Church at Pilgrim on Sunday, October 14, 2012 in the Chapel of the Crosses



After Children’s Church on Sunday, October 14, the four young men shown in the center of the photo below took first steps to learning more about Jesus by accepting Him and becoming candidates for baptism. Standing with them are parents, deacons, ministers, the church clerk, a Children’s Church leader, and Children’s Church youth assistants (*far left*), Christopher Tenard and Christopher Reed. Pastor Board queried the young men to be sure they understood the significance of their decisions, and each one answered with a confident “Yes.” ***They were baptized before morning worship on Sunday, October 21, 2012--on Pastor Board’s 7th Anniversary at Pilgrim!***



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

Scout Troop 271 Spaghetti Dinner



Scout Fundraiser at Pilgrim Baptist Church on Saturday, September 29, 2012
MENU: Spaghetti, Salads, Garlic Bread, Desserts, Coffee, Punch



Scout Mom

Gail



Yum! Boy Scout Troop 271 served up spaghetti and all the trimmings during its fundraiser on Saturday evening, September 29. Their goal was to purchase a trailer in which to store their camping equipment. Current leader of this troop is Gail Williams (*far left photo*), with assistance from parents and Pilgrim members.

Boy Scout Troop 271 meets at Pilgrim at 6:00 p.m. each Tuesday. For more information, call Pilgrim's office.



Everette Sherrod (Blackhawk Area Council) and Pastor Board



Diners



Hallie Williams Honored by St. Elizabeth Center

Mrs. Hallie Williams was one of four people honored on September 29 for their volunteer service at St. Elizabeth Catholic Community Center.

These four will be the first inducted into "**Father Edgar's Wall of Fame.**" Center director Karen Carlson presented them with plaques, and their portraits will be mounted in St. Elizabeth's east building on South Main Street. **Congratulations, Hallie!**

This was said about Hallie: "She has served the center in the capacity of either staff or volunteer in six consecutive decades. She started out volunteering in early-education programs and helping with Scouts. She was the other driving force behind the formation of our soup kitchen, and her name became synonymous with senior services. She served for years as our United Way Ambassador and still actively volunteers at least two days a week in our youth building as receptionist and greeter!"

DISCIPLESHIP TRAINING

*Ministry Focus for 2012-13: "Discipleship: God's Mission, Our Passion!"
Matthew 28:19 & 20*

A Discipleship Training Session was conducted at Pilgrim on Saturday, October 13, by Rev. Muriel Johnson and Dr. Dwight Stinnett of the American Baptist Churches (ABC).



This training was sponsored by the Leadership Council Ministry to prepare Pilgrim members as we continue our ministry focus (*shown above*) through 2013. Rev. Muriel Johnson delivered the morning message on Sunday, October 14, and is shown above with Dr. Stinnett.

The Pilgrim Leadership Council baton will be passed to Virginia Wynn for 2013, as Michael King has presided over this ministry since its inception. **Thanks, Michael, for a job well done!**

