

THE CHRISTIAN CURRENT

Volume 2 Issue 5

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

June 2009

A God-Sent Man

“He always has time for us.”
- Sis. Deanna Edwards

“I learned from Pastor Parks to praise the Lord no matter what people think.”
- Sis. Reniya Thompson

“I love my babies. It’s always pleasant to see you all smile and to give you hugs. The future of Pilgrim is Pilgrim’s youth.”
- Pastor Parks



“You are a good preacher. You are a good man. I want to be...just like you when I grow up.”
- Bro. Steven Thompson, Jr.

“I love being around you. If you ever need me, I will be here as long as God says.”
- Sis. Parks

“Sis Parks is a good role model, someone I can look up to.”
- Sis. Lexus Jackson

Upcoming Events

Getting Fit for Christ
Saturday, June 13th, 9:00 am

Prayer Breakfast, Guest Speaker Rev. Gilbert
New Jerusalem Baptist Church
Saturday, June 13th, 9:00 am

Male Chorus Monthly Musical
Saturday, June 13th, 7:00 pm

National Youth & Graduation Recognition Day
Sunday, June 14th, 11:00 am

Outing to Morning Star Freewill Baptist Church
Usher’s Anniversary
Sunday, June 14th, 3:30 pm

Taste of Champaign-Urbana
West Side Park, Champaign
June 19th - June 21st

Father’s Day
Sunday, June 21st

Father’s Day Tribute
Sunday, June 21st, 11:00 am

Father’s Day Musical
Bless My Bones & Help Me Holy Ghost
Sunday, June 21st, 3:30 pm

National Baptist Congress of Christian Education
Detroit, Michigan
June 22nd - June 26th

Getting Fit for Christ
Saturday, June 27th, 9:00 am

American Cancer Society Relay for Life
Centennial High School Track, Champaign
Saturday, June 27th, 4:00 pm

Champaign County Freedom Celebration
Saturday, July 4th



INSIDE

Pastor & Sis. Parks 1 st Anniversary	1
Brunch `N Style	2
Power in Praise Musical	2
Assistant Needed & Summer Jobs	2
2009 Feature Member	2
Pilgrim’s Oldest Active Members	3
Church Chat	3
Community Events	4



SUBMIT IDEAS

Do you have a story suggestion or good news that you would like to share with Pilgrim? Drop a form in the newsletter submissions box located in the vestibule. You can also submit your story information to pmbcnewsletter@gmail.com. The deadline for June’s issue is **Sunday, June 21st**.

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

1310 North Sixth Street
Champaign, Illinois
217-356-9633

Pastor: Rev. Rickey E. Parks
Editor: Sis. Tyla N. Conerly

This newsletter was printed by:



Brunch 'N Style



Participants: Sis. Judy Conerly, Sis. Shannaya McFarland, Sis. Evone Britt, Sis. Yovannda Smith, Sis. Mardee Hines, Sis. Maria Lillard, Sis. Maria Thompson, Sis. Corey Peacock, Sis. Willow Townsend, Mo. Emily Polk, Sis. Tyla Conerly, Deaconess Jeffreyann Jones, Sis. Rosa Guillory

Power in Praise Musical



On Saturday, May 23rd, Pilgrim and guests several surrounding churches gathered together for a "Power in Praise" Musical Celebration in honor of Rev. and Sis. Parks' First Anniversary. The groups, soloists and choirs that joined in the celebration include: Pilgrim's Voices of Praise, Sis. Jeniece Mitchell, Second Baptist Church Choir, The Kelly's, Anointed For Praise, The Inspirational Choir of Mt. Olive Baptist Church, The Voices of Salem of Salem Baptist Church, Sis. Alexis Gwinn, and Noah Brown & Company.

Praise Dance Assistant Needed



The Praise Dance Team is diligently seeking an Assistant. This individual must be at least 18 years of age, have a passion for praise dancing, and some dance experience. You must also be committed and dedicated to the rehearsals, dance performances, and enjoy working with youth. If you are interested, please contact:

Sis. Maya Overstreet
(217) 778-6930

Summer Jobs for Youth

This summer, 300 high school students along with their adult chaperones will serve our community through the Catholic Heart Workcamp. Their mission is to revitalize communities and beautify homes for the elderly, disabled and those who cannot afford needed repairs. The students will work during the week of July 19 - 25, but referrals are requested now through June 12. Possible jobs include, but are not limited to: light carpentry, exterior and interior painting, yard work, serving meals, organizing and cleaning, food and clothing distribution, working with children, building wheelchair ramps, and more. If you are interested, please contact:

Sis. Debarah McFarland
(217) 355-5437

Feature Member of 2009



On Easter Sunday of 1998, she joined Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church. Sis. Judy Conerly currently serves as the Mission President and has worked faithfully and diligently on this post for the past several years. Under her leadership, we now have annual events such as *Bountiful Blessings*, *Soup for the Soul*, and *Fruit of the Spirit* to encourage Christian women to fellowship together and spread the word of God.

Aside from being a dedicated and enthusiastic Mission President, Sis. Conerly is also the Benevolent Director. On many days, you can be sure Sis. Conerly is out visiting

sick Pilgrim's members in their homes, nursing homes, and hospital rooms. Every Tuesday and Thursday, she sets off to the grocery store to put together food baskets to deliver to the homes of those in need, while spreading the good news about what we do at Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church and letting her light shine for the Lord.

Sis. Conerly has also shown her strength in the Lord through her personal battles as well. When her family needed her the most, she had to step back from her usual volunteering efforts in the community to be a caregiver. Both her husband, the late George Conerly, and mother, the late Lennie Conerly, passed away to cancer, but not without their loving wife and daughter by their side every step of the way. Her faith never faltered and she stood firm in her belief that God would bring her and her family through those hard times.

Her favorite scripture is Philippians 4:6-7, which reads: *"Be careful for nothing; but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus"*.

Honoring Pilgrim's Oldest Active Members for the 84th Church Anniversary



Longest Active Member in Membership

Sis. Marie Currie Hines was born on May 27 in Edwards, Mississippi. She moved to Champaign, Illinois with her family in 1945.

She joined Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church in May 1945 under the leadership of Rev. Fred Newbill. In the past, Sis. Hines has been active in Sunday School, Church Choir, Mission, and BYTU. She is also a member of the Champaign Park District Douglass Senior's.



Oldest Active Male Member in Age

Deacon Charles Adams was born in 1922 in Whithorne, Tennessee. After serving in the U.S. Army Forces in World War II, he united with Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church in 1947.

Deacon Adams' employment includes Churbs, Miller's Woman Apparel and he retired from the University of Illinois with 35 years of service. He is currently serves as a Deacon. In the past, he was a member of the Trustee Board.



Oldest Active Female Member in Age

Mother Emily Polk was born January 20, 1921, in Ferriday, Louisiana. Mother Polk accepted Christ at the age of 14 at the Rising Sun Baptist Church.

In 1947, she moved to Champaign-Urbana and united with Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church under the leadership of Rev. Fred Newbill. Mother Polk is currently a member of the Mother's Ministry and Pastor Aide & Health Awareness Ministry.



Oldest Active Male Member in Age

Deacon Arthur Johnson was born on June 24, 1921 in Little Rock, Arkansas. Deacon Johnson accepted Christ at an early age in Little Rock where he remained until around 1945.

He was united with Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church in 1969. He is a faithful member of the Sunday School, Deacon's Ministry and Pilgrim's Male Chorus. He is especially known for "Lord, Send it On Down."

Church Chat



Sis. Tyla Conerly

On Saturday, May 16th, Sis. Tyla Conerly received a Bachelor of Arts in English from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.



Sis. Regina Parnell

Sis. Regina Parnell graduated from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a Master of Social Work. She was also the commencement speaker for her ceremony. Sis. Parnell received the Mark P. Hale Award for Scholastic Achievement. This award, in honor of the second dean of the School of Social Work, is designated for an outstanding MSW student who demonstrates potential for making a significant contribution to the profession of social work.



Sis. Angela Clark

Ewezo Black Student Union selected Sis Angela Clark as their speaker for their Annual Mom's Day Brunch. The theme: A Woman's Worth. The Women of Color Organization recognized her service as their advisor for the 2008-09 school year. The Central Region of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. recognized Sis. Clark's service as an Undergraduate Advisor to the Delta Rho (UI) Chapter. The University of Illinois Chapter of the NAACP and the men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity awarded me with an I.C.E. (Inspiring Change through Excellence) Award for her service to the African American community at the UI. The UI Central Black Student Union gave her an Outstanding Staff Award for her support of the CBSU and its supporting organizations.



Sis. Shannon McFarland

On Saturday, May 16th, Sis. Shannon McFarland received a Bachelor of Arts in Public Relations Management with Honors from Clark Atlanta University.



Bro. Anterio Allen

On Monday, March 30th, Bro. Anterio Allen won Fourth Place in the Derby Race at Canaan Baptist Church.

Second Saturdays in Downtown Urbana

Second Saturday
Main, Race and Broadway & Lincoln Square Village
Saturday, June 13th
10:00 am - 3:00 pm

This event takes place every second Saturday of the month from June through September. Downtown Urbana merchants will feature special sidewalk sales along with antiques, collectables, art and more.

Bring the entire family out and let the kids shop while you parents get a little break and experience the fun, fresh atmosphere that Second Saturday will provide.



Market at the Square
Corner of Illinois & Vine Streets, Downtown Urbana
Every Saturday through November 7th
7:00 am - 12:00 pm

Join thousands of residents and visitors during Market season and connect with growers. Choose locally-raised foods and treasure-hunt among the art and craft vendor booths.

Patrons can choose from a wide variety of made-in-Illinois goods at the Market, including fresh produce, meat and dairy products, prepared foods, plants, and flowers to jewelry, pottery, wood workings, candles, body care products, garden décor, clothing, and more!

The Taste of Champaign-Urbana

Friday June 19th, 5:00 - 9:00 pm
Saturday, June 20th, 11:00 am - 9:00 pm
Sunday, June 21st, 11:00 - 6:00 pm
Westside Park, Champaign

Feel the excitement!

Discover the fun that awaits you and your family at West Side Park as the Champaign Park District hosts the premiere festival of the summer. It's fun for the whole family and it benefits a great cause, the Champaign Park District's Youth Scholarship fund which provides opportunities for youth who are unable to participate in recreational programs because of economic hardship. Join the Park District and our sponsors this weekend and discover the fun!



Taste something new!

Twenty-seven food vendors will be in the park to tempt your taste buds with everything from mouth-watering desserts and ice cream to spicy BBQ. You can try dishes from around the world, such as crab rangoon, and chicken gyros, or indulge in a local favorite like frozen custard or a cheesy slice of pizza.

Zone in on the Fun!

Experience the new fast-paced and fun Game Show Gurus stage all weekend long! Challenge your friends and family to Trivia Blitz or see who is smarter in Category Busters. Enjoy some playtime with Action Inflatables, take a ride on one of our ponies, and test your athletic ability in our Sports Zone.

Relay for Life of Champaign County

Saturday, June 27th, 4:00 pm through
Sunday, June 28th, 8:00 am
Centennial High School Track
913 S. Crescent, Champaign

One day. One night. One community. Your Relay For Life® is about celebration, remembrance, and hope. By participating, you honor cancer survivors, pay tribute to the lives we've lost to the disease, and raise money to help fight it all right here in your community. You won't want to miss one moment of this life- and community-affirming event!



One of the most moving parts of Relay is the Luminaria Ceremony of Hope. As the sun sets over campsites and darkness falls, the night is brightened by the glow of illuminated bags called luminaria, each of which has a special meaning.

Some celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer and have lived to tell their stories. Many remember the lives of those who have been lost to this disease. All represent someone special who has been profoundly affected by cancer and the family and friends who continue to fight back in their honor.

Champaign County Freedom Celebration

Parade
The Lasting Legacy of Lincoln
Saturday, July 4th, 1:05 pm
 Starts at Lincoln and Nevada
 Ends at Florida and First

Food & drink vendors are located at various points along the parade route and in the Stadium Terrace area during the evening show.

Concessions will open at approximately 10:00 am and will remain open through the parade. They will reopen during the evening show and close down around 9:15 p.m. so that everyone may enjoy the fireworks.



Evening Entertainment
 7:00 pm
 Dodds Park & Parkland College
 North Soccer Field Parking Lot

Fireworks
 9:15 pm (dusk, time approximate)
 Dodds Park & Parkland College

Post Fireworks Entertainment
 9:45 pm
 Dodds Park & Parkland College