

THE CHRISTIAN CURRENT

Volume 2 Issue 1

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

January 2009

The greatest gift of all



Every year, during the Sunday before Christmas, Sunday School teachers give gifts to their students. Before handing them out, however, everyone is reminded that receiving gifts during the holidays is not what Christmas is all about. On Sunday, December 21st, 2008, students received more than just material gifts; God gave the world the best gift of all when He gave His son Jesus.

In fact, little Bro. Steven gave the interpretation of the candy cane as it pertained to Jesus. He told the Sunday School students that a candy cane has red and white stripes signifying the blood and the redemption of Jesus Christ. That blood that He shed was His gift of forgiveness and everlasting life to anyone that accepts God as their savior.

During morning service, Pastor Parks' sermon reflected that same story. He called all of the children to the altar, and as they gathered around him, they listened to the story of Jesus' birth. He told them how there was no room for Jesus' mother, Mary, at the inn. He told them how she was forced to place her baby, the greatest gift ever given, in a trough. He told them that Jesus came into the world to die. Yet, he told the children that Jesus did not die in vain. He died so that our sins would be forgiven; and while receiving gifts during Christmas is fun, we should never forget the gift that God has given us.

So, the Sunday before Christmas, was full of gifts. Special thanks is expressed to Sis. Lexus Jackson, Sis. Deanna Edwards, and Bro. Rijaal Akbar for contributing to the Sunday School Christmas Program. It began with the giving of gifts and ended with the story of the greatest gift of all.

Upcoming Events

Installation Service
January 11th

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration
January 18th

Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast
January 19th

Bowling Outing
January 25th

Christian Valentine Gala

The Building Fund is sponsoring a Christian Valentine Gala on Saturday, February 14th from 7:00 pm - 11:00 pm at the Hanford Inn. Recording artist Lemmie Battles of the Chicago Mass Choir will be in attendance. Tickets on sale now.

Debutante Delores Lee

Delores Anntionette Lee, daughter of Lisa Clark and Damion Lee, and granddaughter of Faye Catchings-Pickett has been selected as a debutante for the 2009 Cotillion by the Gamma Upsilon Society. She will be escorted by Bro. Akeem Parks.

During her high school career, Delores has maintained a 4.2 grade point average at Central High School. She has participated in the Pepettes, Drama Club, Principal's Scholars STEP UP Program, Morally Mature Program.

While sustaining academics and extra curricular activities, Delores also volunteers at Nite Owl Daycare and works two part time jobs.

Upon graduating from high school, Delores plans to pursue a degree in Mathematics at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign. Her goal is to achieve a career in Secondary Education as a teacher.

In efforts to raise funds for her college education, Debutante Delores Lee is responsible for soliciting patrons for the souvenir magazine. All donations must be submitted by Sunday, February 8th.



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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 February's issue is **January 21st**.

Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church

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This newsletter was printed by:



"Ladies' Night Out With Christ"



Sis. Parks and Mo. Campbell at the Fellowship Baptist District Associations' Ladies' Night Out With Christ .

On Friday, December 12th, 2008, women from Champaign-Urbana churches gathered together for the seventh annual "Ladies' Night Out With Christ," hosted by The Fellowship District Association Women's Auxiliary. Pilgrim's Mother Catherine Campbell serves as the President of the Women's Auxiliary and Deaconess Ann Corey is the Bible Study Leader. Numerous door prizes were distributed throughout the evening.

The theme for the night was "Courageous Women Praising God For His Grace and Mercy", the scripture was Judges 5:1-3, the speaker was Juan Chambers of Liberty Temple, and the end result was a blessed evening out with Jesus Christ.

Senior Recognition Day



Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church seniors enjoying a recognition dinner at Urbana Garden.

On Sunday, December 21st, 2008, Pilgrim celebrated their annual Senior Recognition Day. Each year, time is set aside to give honor and appreciation to those who have paved the way for Pilgrim as a church as well as Champaign-Urbana as a community.

A special gift was distributed during morning service to all senior 65 years old and over, widows and widowers. After morning service, Pilgrim gathered together, young and old, at Urbana Garden restaurant. Filled with the holiday spirit, everyone had a wonderful meal and fellowshiped together as a church.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebrations

Campus Community Celebration and Scholarship Program

Sunday, January 18, 2009

5:00 pm - 7:00 pm

Foellinger Great Hall, Krannert Center for the Performing Arts

The celebration will feature a community choir performance, keynote speaker and announcement of the 2009 scholarship winners. Free and open to the public.



Martin Luther King, Jr. Unity Breakfast

Monday, January 19, 2009

8:30 am - 10:00 am

The Vineyard Church, 1500 North Lincoln Avenue

Sponsored by Martin Luther King Jr. Committee for Justice.

There will be a keynote speaker and recognition of the 2009 scholarship winners. Free and open to the public.

Church Chat!



Reverend Rickey E. Parks

Birthday Celebration

On Saturday, January 10th, The Pastor's Aide & Health Awareness Ministry held an "Old Time" Gospel Musical celebration for Pastor Parks' birthday.



Deacon & Deaconess Kenny Ray Jones

Ninth Wedding Anniversary

On Thursday, January 1st, Deacon and Deaconess Kenny Ray Jones celebrated their ninth wedding anniversary.

Farewell to Bro. Jimmy "Jam" Jones



Bro. Jimmie Jones and the Male Chorus singing on his last Sunday with Pilgrim.

Pilgrim said "goodbye" to Bro. Jimmy Jones at his farewell reception on Saturday, January 3rd. After over eight years of hard work and dedication to Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church, it is time for Bro. Jones to continue down the path that God has set forth.

During his reception, Bro. Jones received many expressions of appreciation from the Voices of Praise, Male Chorus, Music Ministry and Pastor Parks. He will be missed dearly by everyone, and although gone for now, Bro. Jones says, "I'll be back!"

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