

*"Is Anything Too Hard for God?" Gen 18:14*



*Letting Our Light Shine*

*A Newsletter for the Members of  
Historic St. Peter A. M. E. Church*

## *THE LIGHTHOUSE*

*1201 Cadiz Street - P. O. Box 750008*

*New Orleans, LA 70175*

*Phone: (504) 891-3488*

*2<sup>nd</sup> QUARTER, 2012*

*Alexander Giles, Pastor*

### **NEWSFLASH**

**Exhorters Rosemary Palmer and Jacqueline Winston on program  
March 18, 4PM, Morris Brown A.M.E. Church.**

**PLEASE ATTEND**

#### **GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

The New Orleans area will host a Good Friday Service at Union Bethel A.M.E. Church from 12 noon to 3PM. **Pastor Giles** would love to see as many of St. Peter's members as possible as he bring the **FIRST WORD**.

**Our Easter service will be held at 7AM.**



Our Sanctuary Choir sponsored their yearly Musician's recognition service. It was **AWESOME**. Our organist, Bro. **Alfred Darensburg, III**, Skip, invited his 8AM choir from Kenner Calvary Baptist Church and our guest saxophonist, Bro. **Cyrus Washington** invited his home church, Providence Baptist Church. Our choir stand was **FULL**. On March 9 our choir participated with the Senior Choir of Kenner Calvary Baptist Church's Fellowship Musical.



Below are, front row, guest saxophonist; friends of **Skip** and the back row is **Cyrus** and **Skip**.



#### **CHURCH SCHOOL - WHY IT IS IMPORTANT TO ATTEND CHURCH SCHOOL**

The Church/Sunday School welcomes/invites all members, visitors of the city, believers and residents of the city to attend our 9AM Church/School Assembly. We assemble in the fellowship hall of the church for an open and uplifting reading and sharing of the **WORD**. The lessons are published each quarter and are age appropriate. The Spring quarter will cover Proverbs 8 and the Epistle of John. We share with the intent of demonstrating love for the Word as well as for each other.

Again, every one is welcomed and we hope to see you each and every Sunday morning at 9AM.

**Nathaniel Harris**  
Superintendent

### STEWARDESS BOARD

The Stewardess Board is busy planning for their annual sit-in service on Palm Sunday, April 1 during the regular worship service. The Board meets every 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday following the morning worship service. All members are asked to contribute towards making the annual day a great success.

Sis. **Estelle Gooden**,  
President

### WMS LAUNCHES NEW MINISTRY AT HISTORIC ST. PETER



It was a beautiful day. Members of the local Lay Organization were busy preparing for the Annual Fish Fry and all was well. Meanwhile, members of the Women's Missionary Society were preparing for the Clothing Giveaway.

The request to donate gently used clothing was answered with new and used items for those who would come. Friday and Saturday, members worked and set up the operation. No one came to partake of our offerings. Chairperson, Sister **Barbara Giles** was optimistic that this was the beginning of something good. We need to pray, she said. And we need to continue to make it known that we are here, as well as find the area where these services are needed. That we will do. So a new ministry is born at Historic St. Peter. We will continue to advertise and pray that we find those who are in need of clothing, shoes, etc. and meet that need. We will show our love by helping others. **The next Giveaway is scheduled for March 23 in conjunction with the Church School Fish Fry.**

Sis. **Gloria Johnson** suggested that we have clothing that would certainly meet the criteria for "Dress for Success." We are on our way. May God smile upon the Clothing Giveaway Ministry of Historic St. Peter A.M.E. Church.

Special thanks to all the contributors and to Sisters **Pat Barnes, Gloria Johnson**, Bro. **Percy Baulden** and our 'Missionaries of Tomorrow' **Brielle Turner** and **Jeremiah Giles** for their assistance.

Sis. **Rosemary Palmer**,  
President

## MESSAGE FROM THE STEWARDS.....

On the last Sunday of January 2012, Historic St. Peter AME celebrated Founder's Day. We were blessed to have the Rev. Samuel Butler and Rev. Helena Butler, a husband and wife team, who portrayed Bishop Richard and Sarah Allen. The pastors of Pontchartrain Park AME Mission shared the memoirs of the founders of this great Zion. Sis. **Jacqueline Winston** did the research and the Butlers added their own personalities and charm to set the ambience for the afternoon. Founder's Day is usually celebrated on or near Richard Allen's birthday, February 14th. But due to Mardi Gras falling in the middle of February this year, we decided to move the celebration up to January. The move proved beneficial.

Inasmuch as it was not your typical program with a sermon, the idea of having two presenters was an attempt to do something different. It was our desire that the guests, as well as our members, would be drawn into the moment and would appreciate the challenges that Richard Allen had to overcome and the strong desire he had to establish a church where people of African descent could worship and praise God without restraints. Based on the comments after the service, the program was a success. Non-AME's expressed their understanding of how the African Methodist Episcopal Church got its start and gained insight into the plight of slaves prior to becoming free people of color.

[continued on page 5]



## TITHING

REV. ALEXANDER GILES - PASTOR

## STEWARDS

SIS. BRENDA OLIVER, STEWARD PRO-TEM  
 SIS. MICHELLE DENT  
 BRO. NATHANIEL HARRIS  
 SIS. GLORIA JOHNSON  
 SIS. JACQUELINE WINSTON

## STEWARDESSES

PRES. EMERITUS, SIS. JAHAZEL IRVING  
 PRESIDENT, SIS. ESTELLE GOODEN  
 VICE PRESIDENT, SIS. PATRICIA BARNES  
 SECRETARY, SIS. GLENDALYN WRIGHT  
 TREASURER, SIS. IMOGENE CARR  
 SIS. ADA CLARK  
 SIS. BRENDA OLIVER  
 SIS. ALTHEA DEBOSE  
 SIS. BARBARA GILES

## TRUSTEES

BRO. PERCY BAULDEN  
 BRO. CLAUDE BEAN  
 SIS. PATRICIA CAMPBELL  
 SIS. ALTHEA DEBOSE  
 SIS. ESTELLE GOODEN  
 SIS. GLORIA JOHNSON  
 SIS. SARALYN JOSHUA

## CHURCH SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

BRO. NATHANIEL HARRIS

## SANCTUARY CHOIR PRESIDENT

SIS. IDA BOUTTE

## LAY ORGANIZATION PRESIDENT

BRO. CLAUDE BEAN

## WOMEN'S MISSIONARY PRESIDENT

SIS. ROSEMARY PALMER

## YPD DIRECTOR – ANGEL NEU

SONS OF ALLEN LEADER  
 BRO. PERCY BAULDEN

Read Numbers 18:25-29. There you will find that even the Levites, who were ministers, had to tithe to support the Lord's work. No one was exempt from returning to God a portion of what was received. Even though the Levites were not landowners or business owners, they still were required to treat their income the same as everyone else by giving a portion to care for the needs of the other Levites and the tabernacle. The tithing principle is relevant today. God expects all of His followers, laity and clergy, to supply the material needs of those who devote themselves to meeting the spiritual needs of the community of faith.

*(The Life Application Study Bible, NIV)*

*Remember to pray for our members who are Candidates for a Miracle*

Sis. JaHazel Irving, 3420 Camphor St., 70118

Sis. Effie Brown, 2901 Pine St., 70125

Bro. Rudolph Brown, Sr.  
 John Hainkel Rehab  
 Center, 612 Henry Clay  
 Ave., 70118

Sis. Clevetta Gautier, 2601  
 Marengo St., 70115

*and our member's family:*  
 Sis. Imogene White  
 Carr's father, Bro. Major

White

Sis. Glendalyn Harper's siblings,  
 Diane V. Shaw and George H. Dunams

*and our members who have lost loved ones:*

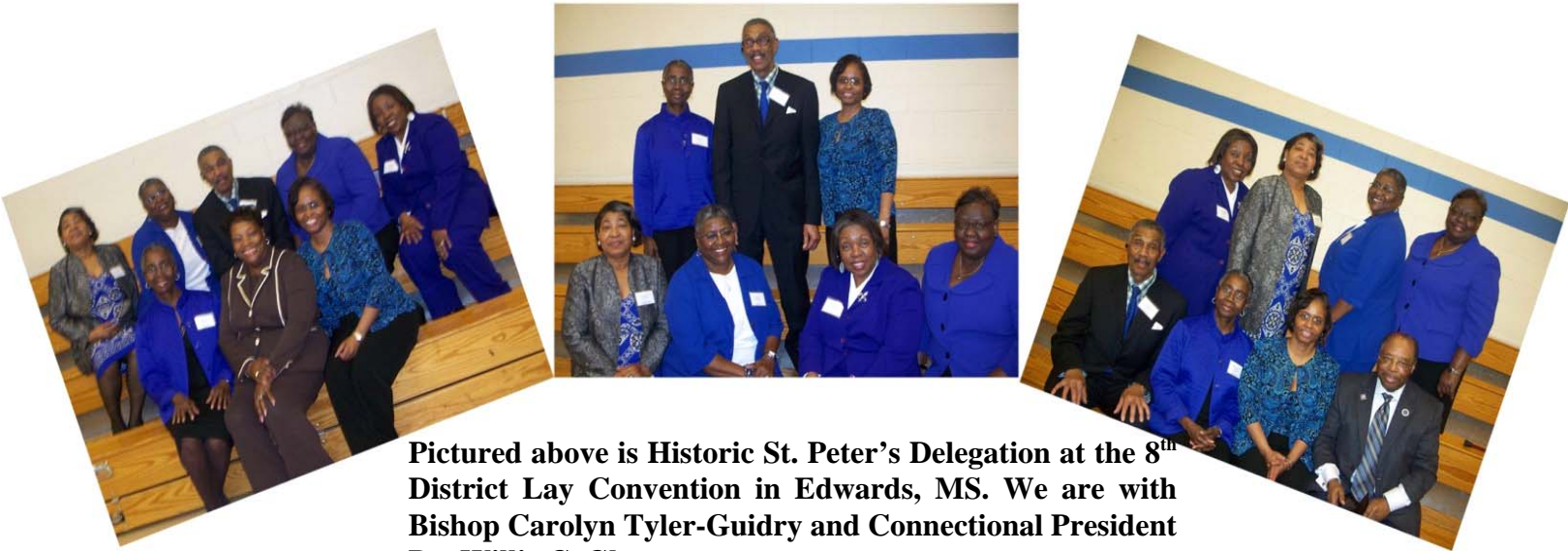
Pastor and Mrs. Giles, their niece  
 Jacklyn Gaines

Sis. Estelle Gooden, her father, Mr.  
 Sam Banks at age 100.



*Members who have been under the weather:*

Sis. Delina Himes      Sis. Linda Hollis



**Pictured above is Historic St. Peter's Delegation at the 8<sup>th</sup> District Lay Convention in Edwards, MS. We are with Bishop Carolyn Tyler-Guidry and Connectional President Dr. Willie C. Glover.**

### **WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO BE A MEMBER OF THE ORGANIZED LAY?**

The lay organization is a vital component of the AME Church. The organized laity is a part of the organic law of African Methodism. As we all know, members of the clergy were once laymen before he or she was elevated to a higher order. All other components of the church are represented by lay persons; whether you're a missionary, steward, stewardess, trustee, usher or ypd'er.

Are you a member of the organized laity, is the question? As a member of the organized laity, you have a voice. Your voice can be heard on the local level all the way to the connectional level and up to the general conference. As a member of the organized laity, you can elect officers on the local level, district level, conference level, the Episcopal level, the connectional level and beyond. Did you know that members of the organized laity elect bishops, as well as all general officers at the general conference, which is held every four years? As a member of the organized lay, you can effect change through introducing legislation that can bring about change on the international level. Members of the organized lay are very important people. Your voice cannot be heard if you are not a member of the organized laity. The lay organization is free and independent of all organizations in the AME church.

As mentioned in the last newsletter, our initiative for this year is to get out the vote. Members who need assistance voting or getting to the polls can ask any member of the lay organization for help. There is an election on March 24th. City-wide, we will elect the Presidential Nominee for the Democratic Party and a Councilmember-at-Large, as well as elect persons to other offices. **VOTE LIKE YOUR LIFE DEPENDS ON IT.**

**Sis. Mary Bean**  
Secretary

**NOTE:** Our members who just happen to hold district and conference offices have been called on to make presentations on various programs. On February 26, Sis. **Jacqueline Winston**, CNOB President and Sis. **Patricia Campbell**, LA Conference President presented an open floor discussion on the facts of the Church at Bethel AME during their Lay Program. On March 11, **Sis. Campbell** brought the message at Cummings-Wilson for their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Lay Day Program.

**[From page 2:]**

Recently, the pastor re-instituted the class leader system. This system was the brainchild of our founder. In fact, Richard Allen and his first wife, Flora, were class leaders. Sarah Bass was a member of their class. Following a lengthy illness, Flora died. Later on in his ministry, Richard married Sarah Bass and they continued the work of the church. Below are the class leaders of Historic St. Peter and their members. Who is **your** class leader?

*Class leaders must be appointed annually by the pastor and shall be examined quarterly by the pastor and presiding elder. Some of the duties of the class leaders are:*

1. *to meet with the members in class once a week, to inquire how each soul prospers, to visit their members from time to time, and to receive what they are willing to contribute for the support of the Gospel;*
2. *to converse with their pastor frequently and freely;*
3. *to watch over probationers with special care and recommend those who are eligible at the end of ninety (90) days for full membership;*

4. *to report to the Official Board:*

*(a) those who are sick, (b) those who walk disorderly and will not be reprovved (corrected), (c) the amount of money collected for the support of the Gospel, paying the same to the stewards.*

(Excerpt from The Book of Discipline of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, 2008)

**CLASS LEADERS****CLASS #1****Leader:**

**Rev. Alexander Giles**

Elbert Brown  
Leatha Brown  
Valena Brown  
Beatrice Edinbough  
Theodore Hines, III  
M.G. Haughton  
Jurasha Miller  
Ruby Robinson  
Linda Wilson

**CLASS #2****Leader: Michele Dent**

Mary Bean  
Patricia Campbell  
Bernice Daggs  
Althea DeBose  
Linda Hollis  
Gloria Johnson  
Saralyn Joshua  
Tabitha Mustafa

**CLASS #3****Leader: Jacqueline Winston**

Patricia Barnes  
Effie Brown  
Ada Clark  
Clevetta Gautier  
Estelle Gooden  
Delina Himes  
Violester Vance  
Glendolyn Wright

**CLASS #4****Leader: Nathaniel Harris**

Percy Baulden  
Claude Bean  
Rudolph Brown, Jr.  
Rudolph Brown, Sr.  
Dowling Carr  
Jonathan Gibson  
Herbert A. Joseph, Jr.  
Orville Lowery  
Jamal Robinson

**CLASS #5****Leader: Rosemary Palmer**

Ida Boutte  
Krystal Campbell  
Imogene Carr  
Barbara Giles  
Lorena Harris  
Jahazel Irving  
Zelma Morris  
Janice Williams

**CLASS #6****Leader: Angel Neu**

Asia Giles  
India Giles  
Brianna Neu

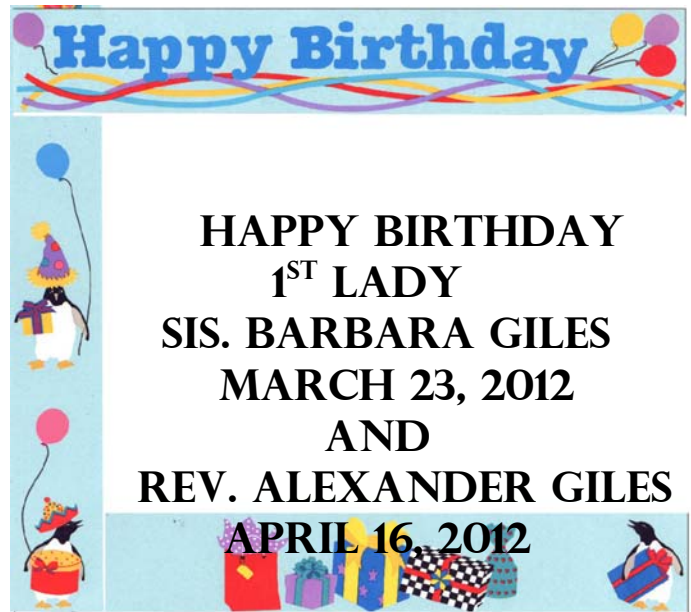
**CLASS # 7****Leader: Brenda Oliver**

Michele Dent  
Rev. Alexander Giles  
Nathaniel Harris  
Angel Neu  
Rosemary Palmer  
Jacqueline Winston  
Sis. Jacqueline Winston  
Reporter

**REMINDER - MAJOR FUND  
RAISER  
APRIL 22 - 3PM  
FAMILY AND FRIENDS DAY  
ELDER R. L. PALMER, JR.  
SPEAKER  
INVITE FAMILY  
INVITE FRIENDS**

**SAVE THE DATE:**

**MARCH 23 - Church School Fish Fry**  
**APRIL 1 - Palm Sunday, Stewardess**  
**Sit-In Service**  
**APRIL 8 - Easter Service, 7 AM**  
**APRIL 12-13 - District Conference,**  
**Doughty Chapel, Covington, LA**  
**APRIL 21 - CNOB Lay 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Meeting**  
**APRIL 22 - FAMILY AND FRIENDS**  
**DAY, 3PM SERVICE**  
**APRIL 28 - LA Conf Lay**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Meeting**  
**MAY 13 - Mother's Day**  
**MAY 19 - Lay Commitment Crusade**  
**Luncheon**  
**MAY 27 - HISTORIC ST. PETER LAY**  
**DAY PROGRAM**



**HISTORIC ST. PETER A.M.E. CHURCH**  
**POST OFFICE BOX 750008**  
**NEW ORLEANS, LA 70175-0008**

Visit: [hisstpeterchurch.org/news](http://hisstpeterchurch.org/news)



***Mission Statement: An historical church reaching the unchurched people in this modern age for Jesus the Christ. By sharing Jesus, teaching Jesus, loving in Jesus, exalting/worshiping Jesus, and living in Jesus.***