

The Fourth Street Messenger

"I will send my messenger, who will prepare the way before me ." - Malachi 3:1

ISSUE 2 SEPTEMBER 20, 2015



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Music Ministry Kicks Off Anniversary Celebration

Each year, the Music Ministry helps set the tone for the church anniversary by kicking off a week-long series of festivities starting with a special concert celebration commemorating their choir anniversary. In preparation for this year's concert, the Music Ministry held a special musical workshop with guest clinician, the acclaimed gospel recording artist, James Bignon. The Grammy and Stellar award nominated artist conducted the workshop at Fourth Street from September 17—19. Designed to be educational and inspirational, the workshop focused on the importance of singing songs that lift up the Word of God and enhance the worship service.

As Fourth Street celebrates its 115th anniversary, the church embarks upon another year of faith, praise, worship, service and commitment. And the Music Ministry serves as a great example of these pillars. "We are focused on spiritual growth and developing the capability to minister the roof off the church," said Director of Music, Tandra Holyfield. "

In addition to the concert celebration to be held on **Sunday, Sept. 20 at 5pm**, anniversary events will include nightly worship services held at Fourth Street starting at **7pm** on **Monday, Sept. 21 - Wednesday, Sept 23**. Festivities conclude on **Sunday, Sept. 27** with a special program at **3pm** with guest preacher, Rev. Anthony Corbett of Macon, GA.

Nursery Makeover

The church nursery is getting a major artistic makeover. Soon youngsters will enjoy seeing colorfully painted walls and images depicting scenes of an outdoor experience with religious themes including children participating in a Bible Study with Pastor Flakes. The focal point of the impressive mural includes a life-sized image of Jesus. The mural is painted by Bro. Jeremy McCrary. Fourth Street youth, Xavier is assisting with the art project while learning as pupil.



YOUTH WIN BIG AT CONGRESS

Fourth Street Youth, Janae Giles shares her experience at the Oratorical and Debate Competition during Congress of Christian Education



From the Pastor's Pen

I am so very excited about our 115th Church Anniversary and I hope you are too. All the glory belongs to God! As this year's emphasis, "*Continuing to Serve the Present Age*" indicates, service to others is a main focus here at Fourth Street. That is how we have been able to be a Caring, Sharing, Fruit-bearing fellowship for more than a century. Please join us and invite others for the various worship and fellowship experiences we have planned for this great celebration. A special thank you goes out to all who are involved in planning and participating in this blessed occasion.

Are you excited?!

Your brother in Christ,
Rev. JH Flakes, III

By Ciera Walker, Youth Writer.

I sat down with Janae Giles, first place winner in the Intermediate Division of the Oratorical Competition at the Congress of Christian Education held in Albany, GA in July. Giles stood before judges and spoke in front of hundreds of people while competing against two other contestants, including a competitor from Savannah and yours truly. This is what Janae had to say about her experience:

Ciera: What was going through your head?

Janae: It was nerve-racking. I was really scared because I was standing on stage in front of a lot of people. It was weird to audition for the judges as they stared at me. It started like an informal thing but when I went in for the audition, it was all serious. I was like, "Oh my goodness!" When it was over, it was a big relief.

Ciera: What was your experience like?

Janae: It was kind of hard. Coming up with the speech topic wasn't hard, but it was difficult sharing a personal thing that I had been through — it was basically like giving my testimony. It was hard putting it together so it made sense and flowed well. But overall, it was a really nice experience.

Ciera: How did it feel to win?

Janae: It was a nice feeling. I felt like all my hard work had paid off and I really felt like God was proud of me. Regardless of whether I won or not, I felt like He would still be proud of me for getting up there and doing my best. I went up there with the right intentions. My intentions were to praise God.

Ciera: Would you do it again?

Janae: I enjoyed it, but I want to sit back next time. I've participated in the oratorical competition each time I've gone to Congress. I want to take a break and see others do it, so the next year I can come back stronger.

Janae and I were not the only ones to participate and place in the oratorical competition. Kevin Scott and Quentoria Walton both competed and placed. Kevin placed in 2nd and Quentoria in 3rd in the Senior Division. *Continued on page 3*





Ministry Spotlight: *Marriage Ministry*

By Mechell McCrary, Editor

Ephesians 5:22 & 25

The purpose of the Marriage Ministry is to build and enhance relationships through the power and wisdom of God's Word.

Chaired by SirMichael and Kellie Jones, the ministry meets on third Saturdays at 3 pm in the Multi-purpose room.

"Our desire is to support couples in all stages of marriage to maximize their relationships to their fullest potential in every area," said the Joneses. "We don't want couples to just survive, we want them to thrive."

The Marriage Ministry focuses on fortifying marriages by providing Christian education and fellowship activities that promote spiritual development, communication, prayer and understanding.

The ministry creates events and support services that are designed to strengthen couples' foundation giving them the tools to build an extraordinary marriage. These include celebration

of marriage anniversaries; community outings; offsite marriage conferences and retreats; movie nights, and marital classes. One of the ministry's signature events held earlier this year was the *Art of Marriage* seminar led by Bro. Donovan and Sis. Geniece Granville. The 'No Screens' event encouraged couples to go on a date night that didn't include a TV, movie, computer or smart phone screen in order to promote communication. The ministry plans on hosting more notable and enriching events this year including a Christmas party.

For details, contact SirMichael or Kellie Jones.

New Member Spotlight

The Gee Family

Judson and Debra Gee along with their son Cameron joined the Fourth Street congregation in January of this year and are already very active within the church. The Ushers, Military, Security, and Marriage ministries are among the several groups in which the Gee family serves.

Originally from Cairo, GA, home of the Cairo Syrup Makers football team, the Gees relocated to Columbus due to military reassignment in August 2012.

"We visited several churches in and around Columbus, but we were always drawn back to Fourth Street," said Debra. "We know we were led by God to join." The Gees are assigned to the Zebulun and Manasseh PICCM communities.

The Gee's favorite Bible verse is ***Philippians 4:13***. "We have truly enjoyed being a part of the Fourth Street family."

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Youth Win Big at Congress

Several teenagers also participated in the Great Debate competition. Kevin Scott and Curtis Walker Jr. placed first, while Janae Giles and Tre'Schon Martin placed second. They competed against 16 other teams, some including college students.

The Dance, Mime, and Step teams also excelled in Albany. Brandi Shoultz, who was over the dance and mime teams, and Johran Bethea and Greg Davis, who led the step team, were acknowledged as the top team coaches and leaders. Congratulations to all!



Newsletter Team

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Fourth Street Messenger

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Upcoming Events

Church Anniversary Week Worship Services

Monday, September 21—Wednesday, September 23 at 7pm

115th Church Anniversary Celebration

Sunday, September 27, 2015 at 3pm

Colors: Purple/Gold in loving memory of Dea. Franklin Douglass

Guest Preacher: Pastor Anthony Corbett, Lundy Baptist Church of Macon

Evangelism/Stewardship Week

Tues-Thurs, October 6-8, 2015 at 6pm

For more info, contact Dea. Albert Hutchinson

Religious College Day

Sunday, October 11, 2015 at 3 pm

College Students contact First Lady Jackie Flakes

Church Retreat

Friday—Saturday, October 23–24, 2015

Callaway Gardens in Pine Mountain, GA

PICCM: Join GAD for Church School

Starting **Sunday, Nov 29**: GAD community will study together each 5th Sunday during Solidarity & Ingathering Day



Fourth Street Youth contestants at the Congress of Christian Education

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