



## ***Other Services***

Our outreach services will also include clothing, food, medical assessment, referrals to community partners, and providers.

## ***Contact us!***

**KEY OF DAVID MINISTRIES  
OUTREACH SERVICES 2900  
S. 11<sup>th</sup> Street Springfield, IL  
62703**

Appointments only.

**Phone:**  
217-220-3823

**Email:**  
keyofdavidministries7@gmail.com



*Our goal is to be an alternative  
to traditional ways of delivering  
counseling, educational  
services, and dysfunctional  
behaviors services.*



*We want to educate our clients  
with a holistic approach that  
utilizes the Bible.*

*We beg for deliverance, and  
submit that no healing is too hard  
for the Lord God, if it be HIS will.*

*We accept donations.  
We are a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.*

# ***Key of David Ministries***





## *Services*

Our services include: Bible Study, educational services, addiction, youth, family, relationship, and spiritual counseling.



## *Why Us?*

Our innovative approaches are second to none. We use the Holy Bible to guide and help our clients with whatever they are suffering from.

## *Professionals*

All support services are led by certified and qualified professionals in the areas of education and counseling services.



## *History*

Minister Gary Pierce and his wife Shari started Key of David Ministries in 2001. They have been an active force in the community with their faith-based agenda. They had a cable show on ACCESS4 community channel for 22 years where they teach about God's word and love for mankind, and Jesus' saving grace. The program airs weekly in the community on Saturdays at 9:00am, 3:00pm, and 9:00pm.

The ministry has also contributed to the youth in the community by providing competitive basketball teams that were made up of at-risk youths in the community.

With the establishment of the outreach services recently formed this year of 2023, we plan to expand our services to include families, youth suffering from the ills of society and those who are developmentally delayed.



## OPINION

### LETTERS

We welcome letters. Please include your full name, address and telephone number. We edit all letters. Send them to [editor@illinoistimes.com](mailto:editor@illinoistimes.com).

### BIGGER PROBLEM

The root problem is not entirely the sheriffs, but the Sangamon County board's failure to adequately fund the sheriff's office ("Sonya Massey's father calls on Jack Campbell to resign," July 26). Deputies are underpaid and overworked.

After 35-plus years, I'm annexing into Springfield because the county leadership can't seem to understand we don't all live in a country setting, and we need a law enforcement agency that is available quickly and trained for urban policing. Protecting the public is No. 1. Cutting taxes is easy when you ignore the task at hand.

*Scott Saunders*

*Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes*

### Ron Blueprint Poem

My dad sometimes went to grade school in town. Once while there he printed a blueprint newspaper; sold it after school for a nickel. It contained a syllogism: "We go to school to improve our faculties; Our teachers are our faculties; Ergo, we go to school to improve our teachers." Miss Glenn the principal suggested he cease publication. Much later, after World War II a male official fired all women administrators; replaced them with men. Miss Glenn, then my middle school principal, out of work at age 60, was reading proof in the middle of the night at the Daily News. My dad discovered this, said, "Miss Glenn, come work for me." She did. I felt awed going into the office with my principal regally adding columns. Once she was delayed, my dad gave her a detention! Later my brother got even with that official but that's another story.

2024 Jacqueline Jackson

### NEED NEW LEADERSHIP

We need someone who will push for reform. Someone who will implement a system that tracks bad cops so they never get hired again. They also need to implement personal liability insurance requirements for cops so that the taxpayers don't have to pay for crimes committed while working in the name of the city or county. Someone who will expand training to help cops account for unexpected situations so that they aren't so scared all the time they want to shoot first and ask questions later.

*Kate Jentree*

*Via Facebook.com/illinoistimes*

### RACISM PERSISTS

When will racism end? Once again, the nation is faced with another killing of an African American by a policeman. However, this time it has happened in Springfield, Illinois, the home of our famous president, Abraham Lincoln. No community is exempt from racism playing out in their community, because it is rampant throughout the country and the world.

I have been a victim of racism many times in my life. However, I have suffered the most detrimental racism ever in my life living in central Illinois for the last 30 years. Some have asked me why I stay. I tell them, it is because the Lord God wants me here.

With the recent killing of Sonya Massey, this should bring some serious discussions in the Springfield community. I would like to suggest this happen with some new leaders in the community, not the same old ones that are always at the table. I would also suggest that this meeting be combined of all races of citizens, police officers, office holders, legal entities and clergy from all races. I'm willing to facilitate this meeting with others, if need be, to have some serious conversations on racism.

Finally, to answer the question of when racism will end, here is the answer – when Jesus returns.

*Minister Gary T. Pierce, Key of David  
Springfield*



Embattled Sangamon County Sheriff Jack Campbell announced Aug. 9 that he will retire by the end of the month amid calls for his resignation by critics of his hiring of the deputy charged with murder in the July 6 shooting death of Sonya Massey. PHOTO BY DEAN OLSEN

### ENACT CHANGE

I attended the July 29 listening session at Union Baptist Church and was planning to offer a suggestion, but time ran out. Allow me to present a recommendation here, although the initial idea was relayed to me by my mother at a kitchen conversation 45 years ago when she served as a police and fire commissioner for the Village of Wilmette in suburban Chicago.

Part of the vetting process that Wilmette police candidates submitted to back in the day was an interview with certified psychologists to help determine if they possessed a proper temperament for such a crucial job. Candidates could fail to make the cut after the psychological screening for a variety of reasons: displaying a short temper, a significant lack of empathy, a tendency to escalate tense situations, etc. I don't know exactly how these psychological evaluations were administered, but I do believe they worked, and most citizens would welcome their widespread adoption today.

Perhaps some larger area police

departments already employ such testing; small departments undoubtedly don't have funding for such efforts. Could a regional panel of psychologists be made available to central Illinois law enforcement agencies (with each contributing something to the cost)? Perhaps the state of Illinois could offer this service to the numerous agencies.

Policing is a vital and difficult job. There are many, many good cops serving the public with distinction. Most police officers are decent people. I'm grateful for their service. It's the few bad apples that need to be weeded out from the beginning. Psychological testing as part of the vetting process could help identify both quality and questionable candidates.

Allow me to end by offering sincere condolences to the Massey family; the unprovoked and senseless killing of Sonya Massey has left an indelible stain on our city. Let's enact some significant changes in her memory.

*Mike Lang  
Sherman*



Gary Pierce <piercegary27@gmail.com>

## Park District Jobs

2 messages

**Gary Pierce** <piercegary27@gmail.com>  
To: Lsgro8 <lsgro8@aol.com>

Sun, Jun 27, 2021 at 5:00 AM

Good morning,

I'm reading the news, and I find the same idea I brought to your attention about three years ago being implemented. Do you know how that makes me feel? I really thought highly of you. Oh well. It is my fault for trusting you. This is not first time this has happened. The least you could do is give me credit or allow my input in some way.  
Minister Gary Pierce.

**Lsgro8** <lsgro8@aol.com>  
To: Gary Pierce <piercegary27@gmail.com>

Sun, Jun 27, 2021 at 7:13 AM

Minister Pierce,

My heartfelt apologies, truly. You are correct that you brought us this idea and we should have given you credit. In our haste to make sure the program got implemented this summer, we failed to acknowledge your contribution to the program. I will remind staff to do so at any further opportunity and I will do so, of course.