



# PCOSE NEWSLETTER

Peabody Class of Sixty-Eight

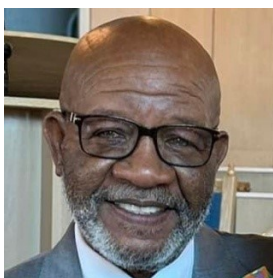
March 2025

This first edition of a newsletter to keep us connected marks the beginning of my attempt to publish "news" for us at least three times a year. You can help by doing one or all of the following things:

- suggesting a name for the newsletter;
- sending information for inclusion;
- serving as a guest contributor on the topic of your choice; and/or
- praying for this effort.

We need each other more than ever now. Let's stay together!

*Helen*



*Inspirational Insights by Rev. Larry D. Smith*

## THE FINAL QUARTER

The final quarter of a game offers an opportunity to catch up if you're behind, or to increase your lead if you're ahead. Often both teams are exhausted and battle-weary, but they must summon the strength to compete one more quarter. The Peabody Class of 68 has entered the final quarter. **By God's grace we have exceeded the proverbial "three scores and ten" (Ps. 90:10). With a few exceptions, our class will turn seventy-five (75) this year.** Many are retired and all of us are eligible for either Social Security, or what our elders called "Old Age Pension". Many of us have gone on to Glory, and some are in nursing homes, while others spend their time at the drugstore, doctor's office, or caring for loved ones. Our movement has slowed, ailments abound, and the bathroom counter looks like the pharmacy at Walgreens. Clearly, the final quarter is not for the faint of heart.

In the midst of life's adversities somebody might be wondering, how do I face the final quarter of life? With our feet firmly planted in the Gospel and all the faith we can muster, we do so with our hands in God's

hands. He brought us this far and he will lead us the rest of the way. The Apostle Paul teaches us something about facing life's final quarter in 2 Timothy 4:6-8. Confined to lockdown and sentenced to die at Nero's chopping-block for teaching the Gospel, Paul's faith was steadfast and unmovable. Like many of us, life had been both a blessing and a burden. While circumstances around Paul appeared hopeless, his mind was at perfect peace. **Therefore, he declared, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith ...."** Wow! What a final testimony!

Ready or not, like it or not the final quarter is upon us, and this "ain't" no practice run. As we run the last mile, let us do it with our heads up and shoulders square knowing that our work is not in vain. And like the Apostle Paul, we know that at the end of the final quarter, the righteous Judge will award us a Crown of Life. Lastly Class, we are confident that when we've given our best in service; when we have left it all on the field winded, wounded, and exhausted, we too can declare, **"And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to his purpose" (Romans 8:28).**



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### *Scholarship Update*



Joseph with Debate Club coach, Shataka Figgins,  
and Katerrio Pennywell, head football coach.

Securing applicants for our scholarship has been more challenging than anticipated, and unfortunately, we did not receive any applications this year. Considering this, we explored alternative ways to support students and discovered that both the Debate Club and the football team were in need of financial assistance. The Debate Club, which is traveling to Washington, D.C. required funds for airfare, and we donated \$1,000 to their cause.

Bolton High School has transitioned into a pre-kindergarten through 12th-grade academic and performing arts magnet school. Consequently, high school students not interested in this specialization had to transfer to other schools, with many choosing Peabody. As a result, the football team expanded from 40 to 85 players and needed new helmets. Because this is a safety issue, we contributed \$1,500 from our scholarship fund to meet this need.

Several of you have sent contributions recently.  
Thank you so much for passing it on!

**To make a contribution to the PCOSE Scholarship Fund,**  
send your check or money order made payable to  
***PCOSE Scholarship Fund* to:**

Joseph Jett  
5733 Goodland Trace  
Alexandria, LA 71301

*I leave you with these words from Maya Angelou whose birthday is April 4: "When you learn, teach. When you get, give."*

*Enjoy these days!*