

'Carry on the legacy' marchers in Kingsport celebrate, remember King. Matthew Lane. Kingsport Times-News. January 18, 2011.



1 / 1 Martin Luther King Jr. Day Parade participants march down Center Street Monday. Erica Yoon photo.



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KINGSPORT — Martin Luther King Jr. Day should not be a day off, but rather a day on — to do good in the community and to help carry on the legacy of the slain civil rights leader. Pastor Ronnie Collins gave this message during the annual MLK Day parade in downtown Kingsport on Monday, where this year's theme was "Remember! Celebrate! Act! A Day On, Not a Day Off." "Remember the legacy of Dr. King, all that he stood for and the great works that he did. Celebrate his 82nd birthday, the national holiday. And the 'act' part is to do something. Do something in the community — an act of kindness or love or help someone less fortunate," Collins said. "It's not a day off, but it really should be a day on and doing good to carry on the legacy." More than 70 people walked in Monday's parade, which stretched from East Sevier Avenue to Kingsport's City Hall. The event drew as many young people and children as adults and seniors, with about half of the participants being Caucasian. Many people carried signs and banners with messages of "Justice, Equity, Compassion for All" and "I Stand on the Side of Love."