



## NEW ERA HISTORY

### History of New Era Baptist State Convention

The Negro Baptist Association of Nebraska was organized in 1918. Information was taken from the minutes of the Second Annual Session held on June 25, 1919. Meeting was held at the Bethel Baptist Church in South Omaha.

#### Elected Officers of 1919

Moderator	Rev. W. F. Botts	Zion Baptist
V-Moderator	Rev. Thomas Taggart	Bethel
Rec. Sec.	Bro. H. L. Anderson	Mt. Moriah
Corr. Sec.	Rev. M. H. Wilkinson	Mt. Moriah
Treasurer	Bro. P. H. Jenkins	Zion Baptist
Bd Member	Rev. D. M. McQueen	
Bd Member	Rev. John Costello	Pleasant Green
Srgt of Arms	Dec. C. C. Carricks	

#### Membership Roll of Churches in 1919

Mt. Moriah Baptist	Rev. M. H. Wilkinson
Pleasant Green	Rev. John Costello
Mt. Zion (Lincoln)	
Bethel Baptist	Rev. Thomas Taggart
Zion Baptist	Rev. W. F. Botts
Second (Hastings)	
Pisgah (Beatrice)	

## NEW ERA HISTORY CONT'D

### A Brief History of New Era Baptist State Convention

Pilgrim (later in 1919) Rev. W. M. Franklin

Auxiliaries in 1919

Minister's and Deacons Union

Women's Home & Foreign Missionary Convention

Sunday School Convention

B.Y.P.U. Convention

The Convention supported a missionary in the field. (The State Missionary)

1916-1926 Four different missionaries

Rev. E. H. McDonald

Rev. W. H. Botts

Rev. M. H. Wilkinson

Rev. J. C. Bruce

Rev. E. H. McDonald (Mt. Moriah) resigned in 1919.

The general overseer of mission work was a white gentleman by the name of Rev. M. J. Burton of Topeka, Kansas. A call was given to Rev. H. W. Botts of Booneville, Missouri to serve as State Missionary of the convention in 1920. After a meeting with the Minister's and Deacon's Union, Rev. H. W. Botts was accepted on January 1, 1920. Because this position was paid monthly, the White Missionary Board had to approve appointments connected to this position and permission had to be granted by them.

Mt. Pisgah and the Refugee Baptist Church were in fact mission stations in small rural areas that were visited on a regular basis. Many churches struggle during those years.

September 29, 1920. Rev. Botts resigned as State Missionary and Rev. M. H. Wilkinson applied for the position. Financial assistance was paid to these churches and special programs were held in order to raise funds for this effort. Rev. H. W. Botts later became the Pastor of Mt. Zion Baptist in Lincoln, NE

The Third Annual Session was held at Pleasant Green Baptist Church, June 16 – 20, 1920. Rev. John Costello was pastor. Minutes were sold at .10 a copy, and the secretary was asked to have 500 copies printed. At this session, the following churches were officially added:

Pilgrim Baptist Rev. W. M. Franklin

St. Paul Baptist Rev. C. Johnson

## NEW ERA HISTORY CONT'D

### A Brief History of New Era Baptist State Convention

The Fourth Annual Session was held on June 16, 1921 at Pilgrim Baptist Church, 25th and Hamilton, Rev. W. M. Franklin was pastor. This meeting had four business items recorded:

- The name of the convention was changed from The Negro Baptist Association, to The New Era Baptist State Convention.
- The office of second vice-moderator was added to the official roster.
- Two ushers were elected for the association. (Dea. Guy Wiley of Mt. Zion, Lincoln and Dea. C. B. Safford of Pilgrim)

The guest speaker from the national convention was Dr. J. Francis Robinson, Field Secretary of the National Publishing Board in Nashville, TN. His sermon was titled, "Elements of a Strong Church".

Guest speaker, Rev. J. H. Branham, from Chicago, Illinois and the Olivet Baptist Church spoke on "The Modern Demands for a Christian Education". Thirteen churches reported:

Mt. Moriah

Pleasant Green

Pisgah (Beatrice)

Mt. Zion (Lincoln)

Bethel

Second Baptist (Hastings)

Zion

Pilgrim Baptist

St. Paul Baptist

Beulah Baptist

St. Mary

Morning Star

Second Baptist (Fairbury)

## NEW ERA HISTORY CONT'D

### A Brief History of New Era Baptist State Convention

The Fifth Annual Session was held June 22 thru 26, 1922, at Zion Baptist Church, Rev. W. F. Botts was pastor. The guest speaker was Rev. C. W. Wilson from Osage City, Kansas. His sermon was titled, "God's Command to His Church" – Matthew 28:19-20. The roll call of churches was eighteen. The following new churches were added:

Mt. Nebo                                      Rev. J. C. McFarland

Springhill                                    Rev. J. C. Bruce

Morning Star (Lincoln)

Second Baptist (Grand Island)

The Sixth Annual Session was held from June 14 – 18, 1923 at Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, Dr. E. H. McDonald was pastor. New churches added in 1923:

Beulah (Council Bluffs)                Rev. F. K. Union

First Baptist (Sioux City)              Rev. D. W. Short

There was possibly a new president in the Women's Convention: Sis. Georgia Thomas

Two new pastors of churches:

Pleasant Green                            Rev. E. Z. McGee

Mt. Nebo Baptist                        Rev. F. K. Union

The Seventh Annual Session was held June 11-15, 1924 at Mt. Zion Baptist, Lincoln, Rev. H. W. Botts was pastor. New churches that were added are:

St. Mark

Salem                                        Rev. Williams

The Eight Annual Session was held at Zion Baptist Church; Dr. W. F. Botts was pastor.

Seventeen churches reported and three missions reported:

The McCook Mission

The Kearney Mission

The Fremont Mission

The State Missionary on the field was Rev. J. H. Bruce of Spring Hill Baptist Church.

## NEW ERA HISTORY CONT'D

### A Brief History of New Era Baptist State Convention

The Ninth Annual Session convened at Pilgrim Baptist, June 9-13, 1926.

The following were officers for 1926:

Moderator	Rev. H. W. Botts
Vice-President	Rev. G. W. Gay
Secretary	Rev. S. W. Botts
Corres Secretary	Bro. A. B. Young
Treasurer	Rev. F. S. Goodlett
Woman's President	Sis. S. M. Wilkerson

October 1, 1920, Rev. R. E. York called a special meeting and made a proposal for Mission Day. A goal was set at raising \$1040.00 per year. Each church was asked to take a special collection on the third Sunday of each month. The money was used to finance the state mission work.

Rev. Joseph Harrison Jackson former Pastor of Bethel Baptist Church 1927 – 1934 served as National Baptist Convention President for many years.

Hosted the National Baptist Sunday School and BTU Congress – March 10, 1958. Rev. J. C. Wade, Convention President.

Convention named changed on May 10, 1996 to the New Era Baptist State Unified Convention and Congress of NE, Inc., a merger of the Convention and Congress was adopted during the annual session at Mt. Zion Baptist Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. Reverend Dr. Michael Combs was presiding Convention President.

In August of 2001 at the Annual Session the following were elected into office.

Rev. Leroy Adams, Jr. President of Convention

Rev. John F. Williams Congress President

In August of 2005 at the Annual Session at the Salem Baptist Church Reverend Dr. Thomas Smith, Sr. was elected Convention President and Reverend Dr. Michael Combs was elected Congress President.

## NEW ERA HISTORY CONT'D

### A Brief History of New Era Baptist State Convention

#### PAST CONVENTION PRESIDENTS

1919 - ?	Rev. W.F. Botts	Zion Baptist Church
1919 - 1951	No Records Available	
1951 - 1952	Rev. M.C. Williams	Bethel Baptist Church
1952 - 1961	Rev. J.C. Wade	Salem Baptist Church
1962 - 1964	Rev. Z.W. Williams	Morning Star Baptist Church
1965 - 1968	Rev. John H. Whittington	Mt. Nebo Baptist Church
1968 - 1971	Rev. G.L. Collins	Mt. Zion Baptist Church (Lin)
1971 - 1974	Rev. William L. Blake	Pilgrim Baptist Church
1974 - 1979	Rev. J.A. Thompson	Corinth Baptist Church
1979	Rev. Lloyd Williams	Mt. Moriah Baptist Church
1980 - 1984	Rev. L.D. Clemons	St. Mark Baptist Church
1984 - 1987	Rev. Horace McMillon	Pleasant Green Baptist Church
1987 - 1991	Rev. James Temple	Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church

1991	Rev. Felix Jones	St. Paul Baptist Church
1991 - 1995	Rev. Dr. Michael Combs	Mt. Zion Baptist Church (Lincoln)
1996 - 2000	Rev. Adam Burton	St. Mark Baptist Church
2001 - 2005	Rev. Leroy E. Adams	Morning Star Baptist Church
2005 -2010	Rev. Dr. Thomas Smith	Paradise Baptist Church
2010-2015	Rev. Cedric Perkins	Pilgrim Baptist Church