

New Era Hot Topics

New Era Missionary Baptist Convention of Georgia, Inc.

“Equipping and Empowering Churches”

Volume 10

***“Developing What We Now Possess and
Blooming Where God has Planted Us”***

Numbers 13:17a; Numbers 13:30



From the Desk of the President...

Bless You New Era family,

God has kept us on his agenda for his Kingdom and greater works. Your love, confidence and support for me as your president has strengthened me to fight for the greater heights that God has in store for us. In unity we are strengthened and will accomplish the work of the Kingdom.

Spring is already here and the convention is on the move. Our Adjourned Session at Saint Peter MBC was outstanding. The teaching, preaching and fellowship pulled us together making us stronger in working for this convention. Even though earth's government may be going through some radical changes, our Government is upon God's shoulder.

Your Presence for my 50th Anniversary will never be forgotten!

I remain yours...From my Heart to Yours.

Gripped in His Grace

Bishop Rosa L. Williams,

President

*Bishop Dr. Rosa L. Williams
Convention President*

*Rev. Stanley A. Smith
First Vice President*

*Rev. Karen Kelley
Second Vice President*

*Rev. Dr. Antonio Proctor, Sr.
Third Vice President*

64th Adjourned Session for New Era Missionary Baptist Convention of GA, Inc.

The 64th Adjourned Session was held March 17 - 19, 2025 at the St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia. We had the privilege of being hosted by Rev. Dr. Eric V. Thomas, Pastor of this wonderful church.

We were greeted by City of Atlanta dignitary Councilman Michael Julian Bond during the Welcome Program on Monday evening. Pastor Thomas is very well connected to many organizations and groups throughout the local, state and national levels and with that being said, Pastor Thomas invited some of the following organizations to come and share information about their organizations and how we can become a part of it or be a recipient of their services. We heard information from Carla Pennington, DM from Careforth, an organization that handles Caregiver Management. She gave us information on the criteria on how to be paid as a caregiver for family members or others. We also heard from Candace Smith Moon from LifeLink of Georgia on how to become an organ donor, especially since 68% of people who need organs are African Americans. As a matter of fact, our host Pastor is a recipient of a heart and as he says, giving him a second chance in life.

Our Session was filled with great preaching from Rev. Dr. James H. Alexander, Pastor of Mt. Calvary Baptist Church, Atlanta; Rev. Dr. Eric V. Thomas, Pastor of St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church, Atlanta and Rev. Quanda Reese of Tabernacle Baptist Church, Augusta. Our training sessions were relevant and in keeping with the current events we are experiencing in real time. Dr. Sean Smith gave us an invigorating lecture on “Chaos, Kairos, The New Koinonia: The Church and Hope in These Times”; New Pastors & Churches - Bishop Michael Strickland; Dr. Gregory Bolden gave us ways to “Take Care of Self in These Challenging Times”; and Pastor Marques Fletcher brought us information on the history and how we can move forward with “Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: History and Backlash” as a part of his communications with the Progressive National Baptist Convention and as our Social Action Chair.

Our 2025 Recipient of the C.S. Hamilton award is Rev. James H. Miller, who after over 60 years of Pastoring Holly Grove Baptist Church, Griffin and Zion Grove Baptist Church, Ellenwood has retired. He made many sacrifices...financial and otherwise for the Convention and the Convention Center and property. We thank you Rev. Miller!

Article by: Sister Selethia D. Smith

NEW ERA CONVENTION CENTER NEWS



Imagine this New Era...this is just one possibility of how our Convention Center can look. Take a second and a third look at it. I see you smiling as you imagine it. The good news is, **this rendering can be a REALITY!**

We need your support and your pledges. With all of us working together, we can get it done the same way we came together to relieve the Convention of the property mortgage and become the proud owners of this valuable piece of God's land that is worth well over \$1,000,000.00! God is truly blessing New Era in ways we need to imagine...there are no limits with God!

If you are imagining these improvements to our Convention Center and want to be a part of making this OUR reality sooner than later, you may mail your offering to P O Box 54056, Atlanta GA 30308; use PayPal on our website: www.neweraconvention.org; or the Givelify App and look for our official logo.

Please include with your offering a note/memo: **New Construction Project/Dining Hall.**

Click this link to view a video of the stages in which we can build: https://youtu.be/H-L511IHijQ?si=A_M1fVpRupN5BheQ

We have prayed over the land, the ground has been broken, all we need is your financial support for the project. The Convention's focus is improving the property FOR US and our Churches.

As a reminder, in March 2024 during our Adjourned Session in Forsyth, GA, the report from First VP Rev. Stanley A. Smith and Dea. Lee Kelley introduced information regarding a new construction project to add a Dining Hall with a catering Kitchen to the Main or Multi-purpose building. It was approved by the Executive Board and the Parent Body. Almost immediately, several Pastors gave donations of \$1000.00 to support the project and others made financial pledges to show their support. A Dining Hall will be very beneficial for us during our meeting dates on the property, allowing us to prepare food and eat without disrupting services or other programming that may be taking place in our main building. We will also have the possibility of making our property a revenue-generator for the Convention by way of allowing the use of our Center for Conferences, Family Reunions, Fishing Retreats, Church Picnics or Weddings. The possibilities are endless!

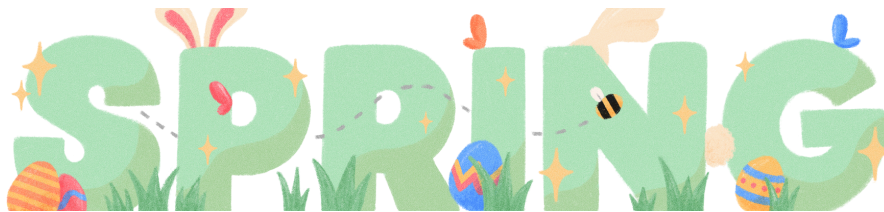
New Era is only as strong as our Convention members and Churches and that means we need each and every one to be an active participant from the beginning of this project to its completion and beyond to maintain and care for our property. Also, please remind your churches to send a monthly financial gift of at least \$50.00 to support the Convention Center's budgetary obligations. Our thanks goes to you in advance for your efforts.

I believe in our Convention and the people in our Convention. Continue to pray for New Era and for each other.

By: Selethia D. Smith

New Era Hot Topics

SPOTLIGHT ON HEALTH



That means it is pollen season...from the beautiful blooming flowers, to trees and grass, pollen is in the air. Often we think of the yellow-greenish residue we see that makes us sneeze and our eyes itchy, but it is actually the particles we can not see that affects us.

We must do our part to protect ourselves as best we can by taking these steps:

- Wear a mask whenever possible
- Keep windows in your house and car closed
- Wear sunglasses or your eyeglasses to help keep the particles away from your eyes
- Shower and change clothes upon returning home from being outdoors
- See your physician for suggested medications that may be helpful, if needed

There is healing in His name, but you must do your part. Amen. Wishing you good health!!!



New Era Hot Topics



Living 90 years is no minor achievement.

Reverend James H. Miller, Senior Pastor of the Zion Grove Baptist Church, Ellenwood, GA, and Senior Pastor of the Holly Grove Baptist Church, Griffin, GA, celebrated his 90th birthday, December 2025.. Reverend Miller is a man of God and has been preaching God's word for over 70 years. Always willing to help others and being a powerful voice and presence giving his spiritual guidance and assisting in the many areas of life for many communities, family and friends.

Many more birthday blessings to Reverend James H. Miller. To God Be The Glory for this man.

"Give him a half a hand!"

Sister Chris Glover
Northern Region President



New Era Hot Topics

WHAT'S NEW IN OUR WOMEN'S DEPARTMENT?

News from New Era Women's Department

64th Adjourned Session

March 17-19, 2025

Happy Spring!

A familiar hymn goes, "When we all get together, what a day of rejoicing it will be."

Similarly, I reflect on the wonderful fellowship we experienced during the Sixty-fourth New Era Adjourned Session. Your unwavering support has instilled a spirit of enthusiasm as we consider the thirty-five women who participated in planning and learning during this time.

We extend our sincere appreciation to the Reverend Dr. Eric V. Thomas and the St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church for their outstanding hospitality in hosting the Sixty-fourth Adjourned Session and for a warm and enriching Welcome Program on Monday night.

A sincere thank you and formal recognition to Amy Beversluis of Atlanta Mission (formerly known as Union Mission) for being our Community Outreach speaker during our departmental meeting. She was able to update us on the works of this non-profit and how we can be of service during our Annual Session in November.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to our 1st Vice President, Sister Valarie Hardmon and 2nd Vice President, Sister Ondrea Cobb for their steadfast commitment and hard work. We were thrilled to welcome and gift five new attendees to the Women's department meeting.

We also express our appreciation to the Region Presidents for their commitment and support:

Middle Georgia - Sister Irene Williams / Northern Region - Sister Chris Glover / Southern Region - Deaconess Carolyn Blackshear.

Additionally, we congratulate our Women of Distinction (80+ Years Young) who will now function as a set aside Unit on our Wheel of Operation.

We value each of you and your contributions to New Era Women's Department.

To God Be the Glory,

Deacon Mary Levi,

New Era Women's Department President

New Era's Women's Department Update

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

2025

ATTENTION: HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

The 2025 New Era Scholarship is now open for graduating high school seniors.

Applications are accepted until May 1, 2025.

Visit www.neweraconvention.org for the application packet.

Start your future today!



New Era Hot Topics

News from Our Regions



Carver Bible Seminary
 Come grow with us
 in God's Word

To register for classes, please visit our website:
www.carverbibleseminary.org
 Reverend Paul M. Harvey, President

If you need additional information, contact us at
 (404) 244-0941 or via email at
carverseminary@currently.com

Carver Bible Seminary
 1481 Jonesboro Road
www.carverbibleseminary.org

The Carver Bible Seminary, Inc. is a registered Georgia nonprofit corporation and has met the requirements for exemption from the applicable Georgia law as a religious institution. It is a private institution owned and operated by Carver Bible Seminary, Incorporated and is not a subsidiary or affiliate of any other entity.

Northern Region NEWS



The Dixie Hills First Baptist Church along with the family of Sister Queen Leath Smith, celebrated her 90th birthday. Sister Queen Leath Smith was born January 21, 1935. Sister Queen Leath Smith has been a member of Dixie Hills First Baptist for over 50 years, raising her 6 children there. She is a member of the Mass Choir and the R.B.S Gospel chorus. She attends Sunday School and Wednesday Bible Study. She will be inducted into the 90 and above Membership at the Church's 93rd Anniversary in September. Sister Queen Smith is a mother, grandmother, and great grandmother. She is full of spirit, kindness, joy, and love. She loves her Pastor, family, and church members. We thank God for the longevity He has placed in her life! To God be the glory!!



SOUTHERN REGION NEWS



Georgia's Legislative Session for Sick Cell Funding & Research

BETHLEHEM MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH PRESENTS

RACHEL WHITE, VP COMMERCIAL BANKER - CURTIS V. COOPER, TC FEDERAL
 DR. CAROLYN ELAND, DNP
 DR. YANEIRA BAILEY ROBINSON

"Empowerment Workshop"
 "Faith, Leadership & Community"
 MARCH 29, 2025 8:30 AM - 2 PM

PANELISTS: CAMILLE SYED, AMBRIA BERKSTEINER, PASTOR BRENDA ALLEN BLACKSHEAR, CAROLYN BLACKSHEAR

1008 MAY ST., SAVANNAH GA 31415 SENIOR PASTOR REV. PAUL E. SMITH, M. DIV.

THE HISTORIC THANKFUL BAPTIST CHURCH is excited to announce

REV. DR. *Jamyle* J.D. SEARCY, SR.
 OUR NEW PASTOR-ELECT

302 WALKER STREET
 AUGUSTA GA 30901

JUNE
 27 -29th Rev. Dr. Searcy Installation Weekend

Evening Event | June 27th | TBA
 Pastoral Installation Service | June 28th | 11 AM
 Featuring:
 - Rev. Reginald W. Sharpe | Fellowship Chicago | Guest Speaker
 - Rev. Dr. Charles B. Jackson, Sr. | Brookland Baptist Church | Presiding
 Morning Worship | June 29th | 10:50 AM
 - Bishop John M. Borders, III | Morning Star Baptist Church | Boston, MA | Morning Speaker

THE HISTORIC SECOND AFRICAN BAPTIST CHURCH

MORTGAGE BURNING CEREMONY
 SUNDAY, MARCH 30, 2025
 3:00 PM

"God's grace is sufficient to meet all of our needs."
 2 Corinthians 12:9

Guest Messenger
 Rev. Paul E. Smith
 Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church

123 HOUSTON STREET
 SAVANNAH, GA 31401
 (912) 233-6163

Rev. Chauncey Blige, M.B.S.
 Senior Pastor

WWW.SECONDAFRICANBAPTISTCHURCH.COM



Congratulations to the Deaconess Ministry of Second African Baptist Church Celebrating their 138th Year of Walking and Working in the Spirit.
 Sunday, March 16, 2025
 Deaconess Jean Wilson, President
 Deaconess Carolyn Blackshear, Program Chair
 Rev. Chauncey Blige, Senior Pastor



New Era Hot Topics

News from PNBC

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Save The Date:
PNBC 64th Annual Session
July 20-24, 2025

All Roads Lead to Chicago July 20-23, 2025



Watch The City Go Green- Hotel Hyatt Regency Convention Center McCormick Place



10 MONTHS TO PAY, BALANCE DUE JULY 13, 2025

Single-\$1,290

Double-\$822.00

Triple-\$665.00

Quad-\$585.00



Sally Fuller 404-769-0384 or Bobbie Oglesby 404-918-2313

Contact INFORMATION

New Era Hot Topics

This will be a quarterly newsletter that will be posted on New Era Website. <http://www.neweraconvention.org/> If you have an article, please email it to neweranews01@gmail.com, no later than **06/01** please keep in mind that we have limited space. NO copies will be sent by USPS! The staff welcome all comments as well.

Newsletter email Address: neweranews01@gmail.com

Staff:

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Sister Selethia Smith – sdawn3296@gmail.com

Sister Carolyn Blackshear – cmultiline@gmail.com

Sister Letha Moore- letmoo58@gmail.com, Sister Brenda Cherry – bvc2672@att.net

Irene Williams – irenewilliams653@gmail.com



By texting your name and email address to