

New Era Missionary Baptist District Association

114th Annual Session - July 18-21, 2022



Minister's Wives and Widows President

Patricia Ann Anderson Jones

5th Annual Address

Reverend Gregory P. Nichols – Moderator

Reverend Monscenior Cunningham – Host Pastor

Haven of Rest Baptist Church

2738 East 28th Street, Kansas City, MO. 64128

Giving honor and reverence to God. To our Presider First Lady Mary Roberson, Corinthians, to Pastor Monscencior Cunningham, our host Pastor, to Moderator Nichols, 1st Vice Moderator Terrance, 2nd Vice Moderator Nelson, 3rd Vice Moderator Reed, Treasurer Belinda Hammons, Corresponding Secretary LaTanya Patton, Recording Secretary Erna Boggess, Finance Chair Reverend Sheldon Gray, Auditor Stewart Johnson, Statistician & Reporter Reverend James Jones, Director of Publications Brenda Rucker, Camp Director Reverend David Jones, Evangelism Director Reverend Frank Williams, Parliamentarian Curtis Hammons, Ways and Means Chair Reverend BG Roberson, Music Director Hattie Lewis, Congress of Christian Ed President Graves, Pastor and Ministers Conference President Reverend Marvin Tigner, Laymen's President Glenn Moore, Women's Auxiliary President Jackie Brown, District Choir President Fred Patton, and Ushers and Nurses President Billie Edwards. To my Ebenezer family Pastor and First Lady, Jesse and Shirley Frazier, to my Sisters in Christ, the Ministers Wives and Widow of New Era Missionary Baptist District Association, Vice President Sister Valarie Phillip, Secretary Sister Annetta Snorgrass, Treasurer Mary Roberson, Devotion Leader Sister Carolyn Graves, and to our new First Ladies and Minister's Wives Marcia Taylor of St. Paul, Jasmine Roberson of Corinthians, Shalaunda Gray of Second Baptist Independence, and Tamara Callahan of Second Baptist 39th and Monroe.

Now last but never least, to United Missionary Baptist Church of KC whom I love, to my Pastor, my husband of 44 years, Reverend James M. Jones, my children, Jamie, Patrick, and Lisa, my grands, Jaxson, Lola, and Vera. You guys make me smile.

The Work

Since 2019, the work of the Ministers and Pastors Wives has changed. We have been called on to pray, comfort, support, counsel, cry, and grieve like we've never been called on before. Please continue to pray for us as we continue our ministry work.

Let us not forget to pray for families that are grieving the loss of loved ones. And let us not forget those who have lost loved ones to gun violence and other acts of violent rage. They all need our prayers and support.

In Memoriam

At the beginning of 2020, we buried three Pastors wives, Sisters Armenda Nelson of Mt. Horeb, Maggie Williams of Mt. Carmel, and Josephine Nelson of Haven of Rest. In July 2021, New Hope's First Lady, Sister Mary Reed, passed from our midst. 'AND I heard a Voice from Heaven, saying to me, write, Blessed are the Dead which die in the LORD from henceforth: Yea, saith the SPIRIT, that they may rest from their Labours, and their Works do follow them.' Revelations 14:13

Welcome

We are so excited as we welcome the addition of First Lady Marcia Taylor, First Lady Shalaunda Gray, First Lady Tamara Calahan, and Sister Jasmine Roberson to our Fellowship. As President, I invite them to bring all of their gifts, talents, wisdom, and insight to help us grow strong in our efforts to be a blessing to the churches in which we serve.

My Stewardship

I have been faithful to all that God has asked me to do including my time, tithes, and talents.

I have obediently followed my Spouse.

I have served the Moderator as requested.

I have served faithfully as New Era's Executive Secretary.

My Address

Moderator Nichols established a theme of 'One District on One Accord' from Acts 2:1-3.

I'm certain the Moderator did not know how important this powerful theme would become and still is over the course of these past two and one half years.

There were agreements made among leaders of the free world that affected our comings and our going. These decisions affected the very health and safety of mankind. And with decisions made by world leaders in high places, arguments took place. Blame was laid on one then another. Fights broke out in office buildings, churches, and on streets. Do we mask or not mask? Do we travel or not travel? Do we get the vaccine or do we reject the vaccine? There appeared to be no ruling authority and the insane were in charge of the asylum. We watched our television sets, and said Lord have mercy.

Yet, through it all, the one thing that we could be assured of is that God is in control. Throughout all of this God loves us.

At the start of the death and dying, many made the assumption that it would all be over in a few days like the flu, then weeks, then over in a year, and now we say come Lord Jesus, come.

But let us look at the record. New Era stood together on one accord. We supported each other through our death and dying. We supported each other through sickness and health. We made efforts to stay in touch with each other. We mailed cards to the lonely and isolated. We celebrated birthdays, alone or with just those in our house, because we cherished how important birthdays are. We made facemasks and donated them to hospitals, nursing homes, and to those in need. We fed the homeless and hungry, and we continued to praise God.

We did this. How amazing the saints of God are.

As we sat wondering what the end was going to be, God already knew what the end will be.

Those willing to serve, kept serving. Those willing to pray, kept praying, those willing to give, kept giving, those willing to be used, continued to allow God to use them.

Yet still, some became inactive. Some became ineffective. Some stopped serving. They decided to be slaves to the television. They became gossipers, rumor spreaders. And hooked on everything except the church. And they failed to find out what their church was doing. Because they might be asked to help.

Some stopped giving. Failing to remember God's church, their haven of rest, still had the electric, gas, and water bills, insurance, mortgage, and even Pastor salaries to pay. They became greedy, needy, and complacent and chose to see what the government was going to do for them. And then, they forgot to tithe of their income. Or of their incomes, as I sometimes call it. Meaning finances came into our home, regardless of the source, was a blessing from the Lord. Yet, they gave no portion to God's house.

Meanwhile, God kept moving. He kept on loving us.

If you are one of those members who have failed to be obedient to the call to return to church, repent, pray, get your the vaccine, get your booster, mask up, sanitize, and get back to church.

In 1943, psychologist Abraham Maslow developed Maslow's Hierarchy of needs. Dr. Maslow breaks it down like this: you need food and water, you need safety and security, you need people and social interactions, and you need to know you belong. Guess what? God said in His Word that He will provide every last one of your needs. God will satisfy your hierarchy of needs as listed by Dr. Maslow, and then God will add even more to that. The Word of God says, 'Delight thyself also in the LORD; and he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.' Psalm 37:4. Dr. Maslow could have just pointed to the Holy Writ.

Our God the maker of the universe and all that was, is and will be, continues to bless. He continues to guide, and He continues to keep.

He continues to move by His Spirit and His might. Even when the Bible was held upside down as a political prop before suffering Saints, God was still at work.

I came into this great district as a minister's wife. My trials and tribulations left me at times asking, why me? He answered, 'Why Not You?'

I then joined this group of wonderful, powerful ministers wives. I came willing to listen, to learn, to be a friend, and to become a friend. And I came to accept their teachings, as we dutifully submit to our husbands. And my Spirit was renewed.

Being in the midst of them, I feel at peace and I feel like I belong. Sister Mary Roberson, has taught me how to say, 'Oh well, it'll be alright.' Through illness and distress, Sister Pat Nelson has shown me how to rejoice in the dawning of another day. Her strength of character amazes me. Sister Dollie Johnson has taught me how to stay the course. We're not driving the car because we'd give ourselves a smooth ride, but Sister Dollie, just goes with the flow and continues to move forward.

In August last year, my husband was called to Pastor at United. The first visit was in July and our grandson said, in all the wisdom a child can have at age 10, 'Grandma, this is a good church.' My response was yes, Jax, it is a good church.

Then the first Sunday in August, Pastor Jones preached the word. The subject of his message was, 'Little is Much When God is in It'. These words are true and the members of United can give testament to how little is continuing to become much. New Era members have blessed us with time, talents, and treasures, both physically and monetarily. You have helped us in more ways than we could have imagined. You have been our prayer warriors and aided us as we hold up the blood stained banner. We realize the battle is not ours but the Lord's.

And we have taught, we prayed, and we teach and we pray. You see, we're not just teaching the Bible. We're teaching life skills through the Word of God.

Eyes have been opened. Souls have been saved. The Word has become a source of strength as the members grow from desiring milk to testing the meat and honey. I did not share how one of our members wept after attending a Congress of Christian Education class when she learned the fate of all who have not heard the Word and not received Jesus as their Lord and Savior. Their final destination grieved her spirit. We thank God for the learning opportunities provided by New Era's Congress of Christian Education. Reinforcing what's taught in Sunday School and reinforcing the preached Word.

This year, we have baptized three souls in our cattle watering tub. We completed a foreign mission project last year in November, and we have adopted a foreign mission project that we will support quarterly. Locally, we feed the homeless. We are collecting shoes for New Era's Soles for Souls for Haiti and we're starting our Grill for Glory this Saturday.

I say all of this to encourage you not to focus on the ones that stopped giving. Don't focus on the ones who became television church members. Don't focus on the one who no longer respond to your call blasts that church is now open. Jesus said in Luke 9:62, 'No man, having put his hand to the plough, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God.'

Just remember. The harvest is plentiful saidth the Lord. The laborers are few. Pray ye therefore the Lord of the Harvest, that He will send forth workers. Luke 10:2.

Workers will come who have been drawn to God by the faithful Saints who planted and watered. Workers who want to share in kingdom building. Keeping in mind each and everyday, that the shepherd leads, protects, and guides the sheep. But sheep beget

other sheep. We, the sheep, need to do some begetting of other sheep who are wandering around lost with a shepherd. Let's go make disciples.

And just as Mt. Horeb, Ebenezer, Southside, Haven of Rest, St. Mark, Progressive, Second Baptist 39th and Monroe, Second Baptist Independence, Westminster, Greenwood, Pleasant Green, Holy Hill, and other churches in New Era came to the aid of United, we need to continue to show we are one district on one accord. We, at United, are still rebuilding the walls and shoring up the weak places. All the while fighting the attacks of the adversary and winning battle after battle. We take the losses and press toward the mark of a higher calling. Our daily prayer is to be day by day all that God wants us to be.

We're ready to reap the harvest and with God on our side, we will not faint. We are encouraged by the love and support of each of you. Our members have been in awe of what has been accomplished at United in such a short period of time. We are living proof that Little is much when God is in it.

So my dearly beloved Ministers Wives, let us continue our work. Continue to pray. Continue to teach. Continue to reach. Be inspired in your encounters with fellow Saints. Be encouraged by the Word and keep reaching. Keep growing. Keep the faith. Love your husbands. Support him. Love your church family. Listen to them. And continue to be that light drawing others out of darkness.

So my Sisters and Brothers in Christ, you have been changed, you have been freed, you have been healed, and you have been delivered. Go forward in Jesus' name. Powered by the Holy Spirit. Be encouraged. Be faithful, and continue in the Lord's work.

Humbly submitted,

Patricia Ann Anderson Jones

President New Era Minister's Wives and Widows

Reverend Gregory P. Nichols

Moderator