

NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH
HISTORY
(Second Baptist Church)

The history of the church can be traced as far back as 1908. However the exact dates cannot be accounted for the formation of Second Baptist Church.

After the break-away from the now First Baptist Church, Second Baptist Church was formed. According to the late, Mrs. Essie Daniels a former member, Second Baptist Church held services in an old house that was also used for a grade school in East Hamlet.

A few years later, the members purchased some land for a church. They put together what was called a “brush harbor” church under the leadership of Rev. J. W. Diggs. Years later the church burned down and the members moved to South Hamlet where they held services until they could rebuild. After a year they rebuilt a new block building on US Highway 74 East where the lower entrance of the parking lot is today.

Now there were two churches within one mile of each other named Second Baptist Church. It was then that the President of the Baptist Training Union, Mrs. Pearl Shropshire renamed the church, “**NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH**”. **Rev. R. T. Gilchrist** and **Rev. McManus** were the spiritual leaders during these times. (Actual Dates Unknown)

With Rev. McManus being sick, he was no longer able to pastor the church. The deacons of the church which included; Mr. Chester Fisher, Mr. George Baldwin, Mr. Parrish Glover and Mr. Handy Pate began searching for a pastor to fulfill the Pastoral ship of the now organized New Hope Missionary Baptist Church.

In October 1958, **Rev. Wade H. Gatewood** began his 51 year reign of Pastor of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church.

The Sunday School Superintendent was Mr. Will Fisher and the church’s pianist at that time was Mr. Parrish Glover. Mr. Henry Medlin Sr. was Treasurer of the church.

The church thrived, but later became too small for the growing congregation. It was in 1966 that a larger building was erected. A modern Baptismal Pool, eleven class rooms, and a fellowship hall was included in the initial construction. The members formed auxiliaries to help with the finances of the church. The Pastor’s Aid, Building Fund, Mens’ Auxiliary, Womens’ Auxiliary were strong forces at raising funds to help finance the church. It has been said that none of the people instrumental in the formation of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church were formally educated; rather they were laborers and domestic workers.

Under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Wade H. Gatewood, Mr. Clyde Harrington was Sunday School Superintendent and Mr. Rudolph Goodwin succeeded Mr. Clyde Harrington as Sunday School Superintendent. The Senior Choir and Missionary were formed from the Second Baptist era. The Adult Choir, Gospel Choir, Youth Choir, Men's Choir and the Mass Choir were formed under Dr. Wade H. Gatewood. Also, Vacation Bible School, Bible Study, Prayer Meeting, after school educational program, mime team and the New Hope Baptist Cemetery were established.

There were many members called into the ministry under the direction of Rev. W.H. Gatewood. Rev. Edward Ash, Rev. Michael Patrick, Rev. Clarence McCoy (deceased), Rev. Johnny Quick (deceased), Rev. Liza Edwards, Rev. Thelma Thomas (deceased), Rev. Handy Pate(deceased), Rev. T. M. McDonald(deceased), Rev. Frazier (deceased), Rev. Ronnie Tomblin (deceased) and Rev. Sam Davis.

In April 2009, God saw fit to call his servant, Dr. Wade H. Gatewood from labor to reward. It is with humility that his legacy continues as he declared, "**A Charge To Keep I Have**" and **Moving Up Zion Hill**".

In November 2010 Rev. Leroy Tyson, Jr. was elected to serve the pastorate of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church. As of November 2010, 18 new members joined the church and a new member class was formed. The first class was held on Sunday, April 10, 2011 with Deacon Freddie Wallace as the teacher.

January 2012, Rev. Leroy Tyson Jr. was voted out of the pastorate of New Hope Missionary Baptist Church by the members at large.

Then Rev. Gladys Broome served the New Hope Missionary Baptist Church as Interim Pastor.

October 2015 The Church elected Pastor John A. Jackson to serve as our leader. Pastor Jackson served until 2021 as his health prevented him from doing so.

October 2021 New Hope elected Rev. Michael T, Swinney to serve as Pastor

The Associate Ministers were; Rev. Liza Edwards, Rev. Johnny Quick (deceased) and Rev. Thelma Thomas (deceased).

The Deacons were; Roy Williams- Vice Chairman, Darnell Swiney-Chairman, Quinton Childress, Brian David, Percy Miller, Jimmy Poe (deceased), Freddie Wallace and Samuel Robinson (deceased).

The Deaconess were; Patricia Legrand, Gloria Carter (deceased), Lucy Poe (deceased), Sandra Francis, Hazel Childress, Susie Harrington (deceased), and Dorothy Miller.

The Trustees were: Vennie Livingston (deceased), Michael Carter-Chairman, Henry Medlin-Treasurer, Imogene Thomas, John Stroman, Earl Strong, Patricia Legrand, Beatrice McNeill, Benjamin Pate, Phillip Wallace, Reginald – Financial Secretary and Chris Cox.

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The Sunday School Superintendent is; Ray Rudolph Goodwin, Denise Diggs-Assistant, Mae Conwell-Associate, Dorothy Legrand-Associate, and Ollie Sloan-Associate.

Musicians; Daniel Gatewood- Minister of music and organist, Quinton Childress-Guitarist, Marlon Kelly- Drummer.

June 2021 commemorated 117 years existence of **THE NEW HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH** with four (4) Pastors and one (1) Interim Pastor having served the pastoral ship.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY!

**Updated:
10/19/21**