

IF YOU ARE ABLE AND  
CARE, COME TO CHURCH  
WITH A CAN IN YOUR  
HAND FOR CRISIS CONTROL.  
S.J.D.



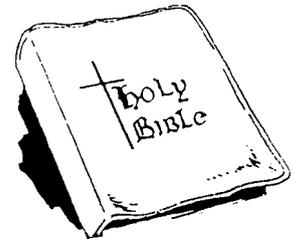
# THE SPOTLIGHT

67 Years Of Continuous Service  
for

## New Bethel Baptist Church

1016 North Trade Street  
WINSTON-SALEM, NORTH CAROLINA

January 3, 2021



VOLUME 68, NO. 1

OUR CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT IS "to reach, teach, and preach to every segment of our church and community with the love of Christ."

## Church Approves Budget For 2021



**REV. LOUIS S. WERTS**  
**PASSES AFTER EXTENDED ILLNESS**

### Associate Pastor Rev. Louis S. Werts Passes

By Barbara Ford

Rev. Louis S. Werts, Associate Pastor of New Bethel Baptist Church transitioned peacefully at Kate B. Reynolds Hospital Home on October 12, 2020. Rev. Werts was born July 3, 1929 in Little Mountain, South Carolina to the late Jesse and Lancie Werts.

Rev. Werts received the Bachelor of Arts Degree from Allen University in Columbia, South Carolina and was a graduate of Dickerson Theological Seminary in Columbia. He was licensed and ordained to preach at the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Newberry, South Carolina. He was a resident of Winston-Salem since the late 20's where he was well-known as a US Postal Mail Carrier. He began preaching at the age of 17 and served as pastor of several churches in South Carolina and in North Carolina for more than 30 years, retiring from Union Bethel AME Zion Church in Winston-Salem after 13 years as senior pastor. He served as Associate Pastor at New Bethel from 1992 until his health failed.

Pastor Werts was preceded in death by his wife of 22 years, Lillie Mae Jones. To cherish his memory are Shirley Jones Werts, his wife of 35 years; his children of Virginia, Nigeria and Winston-Salem; and a host of relatives and friends.

### NBBC Children's Church Goes Viral

By Rev. Azure'e DJ Dalton

On Sunday Morning at 11:00 a.m., you could hear laughing and cheering as children reported to Classroom C at New Bethel Baptist Church for Children's Church Ministry. Then the pandemic hit, and our lives were impacted. Yet, this pandemic has not slowed NBBC Children's Church Ministry down. In fact, it allowed it to go to a new level in ministry by going viral. Every week, new worship lessons are taught by NBBC Children's Church team members along with materials from the Superbook Curriculum. These lessons along with music links are emailed and found on the new NBBC Children's Church Facebook Page. The team members have worked hard to make sure that all the children have an opportunity to receive the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

During August 2020, this ministry also held a Four Day Virtual Bible Study entitled "Identity Seekers for Christ." This event included lessons and worship songs all on Zoom. On Thanksgiving Day, a special Children's Church Worship Service was produced where members could share their thankfulness.

On Sunday, December 20, 2020 the team prepared at 5:00 p.m., a Christmas Virtual Zoom party to take the place of the Annual **(Continued Page 2, Column 3, Article 2)**

### New Bethel Welcomes Our New Secretary, Sharon Clark

By Hattie Ingram

Due to the pandemic, the church has been closed for official business except for several hours on Thursday. Many of you have called and left messages or sent e-mails to receive information concerning matters of interest. You probably wondered who the very professional and business-like woman was who answered or returned your call and responded to your e-mail so effortlessly. She is Sharon Clark, our new church secretary. She assumed this position in March, 2020, just about the time Covid19 caused many closings, including churches. **(Continued Page 3, Column 1, Article 2)**

### Church Approves Budget

By Diane Piggott

New Bethel held its first virtual church meeting on Wednesday, December 16, 2020. The fiscal year ended on October 31, 2020 and the officers have been busily preparing for plans for next year.

The meeting was called to order promptly at 6:30 pm with Deacon John Posey offering prayer. It was followed by the minutes of the December 2019 meeting read by Deacon Carolyn Crosby. The motion for acceptance carried. Deacon Wesley Curtis reviewed financial information of the various bank accounts. He was followed by the chairman of the Audit Committee, Deacon Joe Bartley. Bartley and his committee of Deacon Thomas Atkins, Bonnie Moorman and Beverly Brown gave a glowing report of how finances were handled and there were only 2 checks for insufficient funds that were not recouped. However, they did recommend that auxiliary heads needed a refresher course in requesting payments by checks and depositing funds into their accounts in a timely manner.

The Budget Committee reported next. Committee member, Trustee John Lucas read a statement entitled, "Budgetary Summation for 2021." It basically told the congregation that they realized that Covid-19 had impacted church giving, but **(Continued Page 3, Column 1, Article 1)**



**MS. SHARON CLARK**  
**NEW CHURCH SECRETARY**

*The New Bethel Spotlight*  
Published Monthly By The Journalistic Society  
Of New Bethel Baptist Church

#### STAFF

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Assistant Pastors \_\_\_\_\_ Rev. C. Diane Horton,  
Rev. Azurée Johnson-Dalton  
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*Dedicated to those who are  
Interested in New Bethel*

## Editorial The Hope Of The New Year

*By Diane Piggott*

With the abrupt closing of the public schools of Winston-Salem/Forsyth County on March 14, 2020, our world radically changes. We should have been told to isolate, wear masks and practice social distancing then.

Sure, we knew that a deadly virus was attacking China which is over 3000 miles away. But our president didn't want to alarm us! (His words.) Now nine months later, we are looking at over 16 million cases and over 300,000 deaths worldwide. No doubt, the virus has touched your families.

God inspired the scientists to come up with a vaccine to eradicate this virus. News has it that a 34 year old Black woman was a part of the discovery team for the vaccine. I truly feel that God's Hand is in the development of the vaccine that has come about in less than a year. We must now trust Him in the coordination and administration of it.

However, we must remain true to the early guidelines to keep our nation safe! The vaccine gives us HOPE!

### Donations

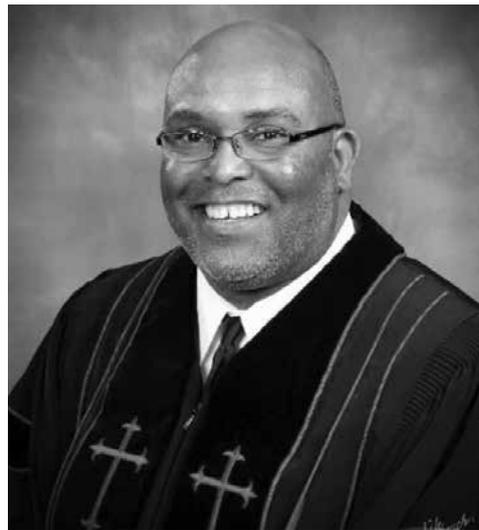
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Buffalo, NY 14208

Church – \$200.00

*The Spotlight* – \$100.00

Ms. Ann Latta  
1316 Bryant St., N.E. Apt. 4  
Washington, DC 20018-1169



**PASTOR KENDALL D. JONES, SR.**  
**THOUGHTS FOR THE NEW YEAR**

## A Desire For Normalcy

*By Dr. Kendall D. Jones, Sr.*

As of the date of this article, there are more than 16.5 million cases of coronavirus in the United States and more than 300,400 irreplaceable precious lives have been lost from the same. From this long night of despair, pain and suffering, this virus has changed our world, as we know it. Much of what we took for granted as routine or even as mundane has taken on new meaning in our lives.

We have come to miss those things which were deemed as social norms. We thought going to work, school or church were bestowed. We believed sitting at a restaurant, attending a sporting event, walking through the mall, or working out at a local gym was a right. Our culture demanded the gathering around holidays, graduations, birthdays and funerals. It is expected that grandparents and grandchildren greet each other with those big wonderful hugs and kisses. Covid-19 has changed even our view of life and death. Therefore, there is this great appreciation for normalcy.

A vaccine, to combat this virus, has been distributed all across America. We all celebrate this light at the end of this long, dark and horrific tunnel. We thank God for those who have recovered as we grieve with those who have or will have it. We are eternally grateful to health care workers and first responders who risk their lives in the pursuit to save others.

As we pray for this suffering to end, I pray for a new normal. My hope is that we never forget the lessons learned during this pandemic. I pray that we will value all life, celebrate our teachers, give thanks to our first responders, cherish our relationships, become more sensitive to the pain and suffering of others, that our Christian worship become more real and connected to God and fellow members, give greater importance to our family, express gratitude and thankfulness to God for each day lived and the seed of love be deeply  
**(Continued Page 2, Column 3, Article 3)**

## Youth Corner



**ARI NICOLE PIGGOTT**  
**RESOLUTIONS FOR 2021**

## Piggott Looks To The New Year

*By Diane Piggott*

Little Miss Ari Nicole Piggott finds herself sitting in front of her laptop each day because the schools are meeting virtually. She confided to me that it is a situation that she doesn't really enjoy and will ask me, her grandmother, to sit in for her. I tell her "No!" and she gets back to work. *The Spotlight* Staff asked her for her "New Year's Resolutions". Here's what she had to say:

1. I am going to be kinder to everyone.
2. I am going to help people.
3. I am going to be more loving.

When I told her that I would help her keep these resolutions, she just laughed. Then I said to her, "You know that means that you won't be yelling at your brother as much or stop being noisy when he is on his laptop doing work." Right? She went silent on me. It remains to be seen how the next year goes! Happy New Year!

**NBBC CHILDREN'S...** *Continued*  
Christmas Party. During this time, fun was had by all as the children watched Superbook movie entitled "The Birth of Jesus", played Christmas Trivia, played named that tune, and closed with singing Happy Birthday Jesus.

As the team members move forward in their planning for the New Year of 2021, you will see new additions to the ministry. A new YouTube Channel geared for Children's Church Ministry is already in the works and will be launched. If you are interested in checking out the Facebook Page, please go to NBBC Children's Church Ministry@nbbcws.

**A DESIRE FOR...** *Continued*  
implanted in the hearts of this one humanity. May all of our lives change forever for the better, because **"Truly the light is sweet, and a pleasant thing it is for the eye to behold the sun. (Ecclesiastes 11:7)"**

**CHURCH APPROVES...** *Continued*  
closed with the scripture, Luke 12:48, "To whom much is given, much is required." Budget Chairman, Trustee Daniel Piggott further explained that the committee was working very hard not to cut salaries because they can radically affect a person's livelihood. The budget was approved.

Deacon Douglas Joyner reported there were no major problems this year. There were a couple of power outages that caused some minor issues.

Deacon and Mrs. John Posey informed the church that they are moving back into their home which was destroyed by fire in December, 2019 and that they "Thank God!"

**NEW BETHEL WELCOMES...** *Continued*  
She has made significant contributions to the church during this time. She succeeds outgoing secretary, Ms. Frances Campbell who retired after many years of service.

Ms. Clark was born in Forsyth County where she graduated from North Forsyth High School and Miller-Motte Business College. She received further training in Administration at Forsyth Technical Community College. The mother of three and grandmother of four, Ms. Clark enjoys teaching Youth Sunday School at El-Bethel Church of God. She volunteers with Samaritan Ministries, the Winston-Salem Rescue Mission and the Golden Lamb Rest home as well as other community services groups.

Our new secretary is thankful for the opportunity to serve at New Bethel and the assistance she has received from Deacon Carolyn Crosby and other staff members making for a smooth transition. She is also grateful for understanding and concern of Pastor Jones and the members she has met.

New Bethel officially welcomes Ms. Sharon Clark.

## Meet Giavanna Rae

Candice Rachelle Hunt gave birth to her first child on Sunday, October 4th, 2020.

She arrived to her mother's surprise three weeks early and had to stay in the nic-u for four **(Continued Page 3, Column 2, Article 2)**



**GIAVANNA RAE**  
**NEW OCTOBER SWEETHEART**



**PRINCESS TATAYANA POE-SMITH**  
**MAJORS IN ENGLISH LITERATURE**

## Princess Poe-Smith Graduates From UNCG

*By Carol Poe*

Princess Poe-Smith virtually graduated on December 11, 2020 at 10:00 AM. She was awarded with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in English Literature from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. During her tenure at the University, she worked as a Campus IT Lab Consultant at the Jackson Library on Campus. She was promoted to the position of Student IT Lab Manager. Princess will begin post-graduate studies beginning in the Spring of 2021 at her alma mater in Library and Information Science. She hopes to begin her journey into Librarianship.

At New Bethel, Princess participated in the Youth Choir, assisted in Children's Church, and the Young Adult Missionary. She would like to thank the congregation for all their prayers and encouragement.

Princess is the daughter of Alisa Poe and the granddaughter of Alfred and Carol Poe.

**MEET GIAVANNA...** *Continued*  
days but she is doing wonderfully now.

Giavanna Rae was born to Candice and her fiancé, Jordan Worthy. She weighed 5lbs 12 ounces. She is the fourth grandchild of the proud grandparents Charles and Susan Hunt, and the fifth grandchild of Jordan's mother, Mrs. Cynthia Wright.



**HERBERT BRESHAUN LILES**  
**COMPLETES DUAL DEGREE PROGRAM**

## Herbert Breshaun Liles Graduates

*By Hattie Ingram*

Herbert Breshaun Liles completed the Dual Degree Program between Morehouse College of Atlanta, Georgia and North Carolina A&T State University. Due to the Pandemic, commencement activities were held virtually for both schools.

Breshaun received a BS in General Science from Morehouse on Sunday, December 13, 2020 and the BS in Mechanical Engineering on Saturday, December 12, 2020.

While attending Morehouse, he was active with the Marching Band (House of Funk) and featured in a commercial with the Drumline that aired on ESPN which was produced by Samuel L. Jackson and Spike Lee. He served as Chief of Staff for the Student Government his junior year and was honored with a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Mathematics (Calculus).

Herbert has always had a passion for volunteering and working with youth and currently serves as the Head JV Basketball Coach at R. J. Reynolds High School. He has accepted a position with Amazon. He is the son of Ms. Paula Imes, brother to Charlie Douglas and Londyn Imes and the grandson of Deacon Carolyn (George) Crosby.

A graduation celebration was held in his honor on Saturday, December 19, 2020 at the exquisite Legacy Stables & Events Venue.

## New Bethel Groups Reach Out For The Holidays

*By Lisa Myers*

The Journalistic Society and Effort Club of New Bethel Baptist Church reached out during the holidays to cheer families.

The Effort Club had its members donate food items which amounted to an assortment of foods for three families and one prepared meal to a New Bethel member. They met at the church and distributed the food collected on November 7, 2020. Mrs. Lisa Myers is president of the group.

The Journalistic Society delivered prepared meals to two New Bethel families and delivered them on November 24, 2020. The families merely had to reheat the servings

and enjoy. Mrs. Hattie Ingram is president of the group.

Just because we cannot gather as we did last year, does not mean that we can't find meaningful ways to give thanks.

"As organizations, we feel great about the whole concept of being able to give back to the community. We want to give people hope. It's been a tough year, but people need to understand that there is hope and that's what the Bible gives: hope through Jesus Christ. We just wanted to help out the families that need it. We wanted to show our gratitude by giving back to the community."



**MRS. CONNIE SMITH**  
**USES DOUBLE MASKS AND SHIELDS**



**MRS. SUE LEACH**  
**COVID 19 HAS BEEN AN EYE OPENER**



**MRS. PAM CAMPBELL**  
**WE SCREEN EVERYDAY**

## Heroes On The Front Line

*By Diane Piggott*

What is it like serving on the front line in the midst of this Covid-19 situation? We posed this question to three of our members who are front line heroes—nurses. Let's see what Mrs. Connie Smith, Mrs. Sue Leach and Mrs. Pam Campbell had to say.

Mrs. Connie Smith responded, "I'm washing my hands more, I visit as little as possible and check temperatures. I also double mask along with a face shield. I will keep the visit as short as possible. I always remember to wipe common areas, wipe down my cell phone and door knobs. After the visit, I examine myself for symptoms and if I feel uneasy, I quarantine at home. If I feel sick, I don't work. I've taken advantage of free testing in order to stay healthy. I also avoid certain buildings if I hear of a high number of infections. I have heard of a person having multiple infections. We just don't know where other people have been!"

Mrs. Sue Leach says that "it's been an eye opener for me after 41 years of nursing. There's fear in nurses and patients because of so much that is unknown. You're so unsure! The worst part is that patients cannot be with their loved ones. We've set up iPad for the patients to deal with family. It's difficult dealing with nurses who don't want to take care of covid-19 patients. I understand their fears. I have one nurse who quit. Personally, I have a grandson that I want to see and I fear taking something home to him."

Mrs. Pam Campbell revealed, "It is hard! You have to adjust to wearing a mask all day. You have to be careful about who you are around. You even have to be careful of patients' families because we allow one visitor with the patient. We screen every day. We take temps and ask about symptoms. We are getting ready to take the vaccine soon.

So as you see, the work environment can be a place of anxiety. These nurses are still there giving the best help that they can. They haven't walked off the job. We need to be conscious of what we are doing and appreciate their sacrifice. Wear the mask, wash our hands and social distance to keep everyone safe.



**DEACON CAROLYN CROSBY**  
**ENJOYS VOLUNTEER OUTREACH AT FORSYTH**

## Carolyn Crosby Elected As Board President

*By Hattie Ingram*

Carolyn Crosby was recently elected President of the (NHFMC) Novant Health Forsyth Medical Center Auxiliary Board of Directors. She served as Vice President for the past three years. She began volunteering after *(Continued Page 4, Column 2, Article 2)*

## CAROYLN CROSBY... *Continued*

her retirement from Novant in 2013 and enjoys the outreach the auxiliary provides to Forsyth Medical Center and the community. They provide funding for free rides home to patients in need of transportation when discharged; comfort meals to families who have loved ones admitted to the hospital unexpectedly and cannot afford meals; car seats to families of newborns born at the hospital and cannot afford them.

During the pandemic they have provided snacks to all departments in appreciation of their dedication and provided holiday snacks as well to the entire hospital staff.

The auxiliary also provides scholarships to 5 students attending Forsyth Technical College and pursuing a career in Healthcare and 5 seniors from Winston-Salem State University who are in their senior year of nursing school.

The Auxiliary maintains the three gift shops located within Forsyth Medical Center, designs and provides the flowers sold through the gift shop and assist with special projects as requested by the hospital.

## Barbara Burke Elected Councilwoman

*By Carol Poe*

Mrs. Barbara Burke was sworn onto the *(Continued Page 4, Column 3, Article 2)*



**COUNCILWOMAN BARBARA BURKE**  
**NORTHWEST WARD REPRESENTATIVE**

## BARBARA BURKE... *Continued*

Winston-Salem City Council on Monday, December 7, 2020 by The Honorable Judge Todd Burke. Councilwoman Burke will represent the Northeast Ward of Winston-Salem. Mrs. Burke thanked her committee, her family, her husband and the City Council with an easy transition.