

Adopted January 2022

Greater New Zion Missionary Baptist Church

History, Mission, Mission Statement, Vision Slogan,
Vision Statement, Vision, Family Plan, and 30-year
Bridge Plan



Sunday School: 9:45
Sunday Service: 11:00
Wednesday Night Bible Study: 6:00

Contact Number: 334-897-5545
Address: 720 Davis Street East,
Elba, Alabama 36323

Website:
www.gnzmbchurch.org



History

According to past history, our ancestors were not allowed by their master to assemble together for worship, so they sang as they worked. Favorites such as "Give Me That Old Time Religion," "Go Down Moses," and "Swing Low Sweet Chariot" were songs that they often sang together.

After their freedom, they really wanted to show how thankful they were to God, so they would go from house-to-house and sing Zion praises and worship Him. In their community (or settlement as it was called then) the congregation began to grow, and they needed more space. So, they built their first church, less than a quarter mile from this present site.

The white settlers began to move out from a little frame church called the Providence Baptist Church and they decided to give their building and land to the Negroes. Deacon Dan Adams paid \$1.00 for the deed to purchase the building and the piece of land that it sat on.

The new owners wanted a new name for their new home and the late Mr. Simon Hammond submitted the name New Zion, after possible church names were written down on a piece of paper, placed in a hat, and drawn. The name was later changed to Greater New Zion under the leadership of Rev. L. B. Baldwin.

Greater New Zion has had many great Pastors, to name a few: Rev. Larkins, Rev. Gibson, Rev. Owens, Rev. Martin, Rev. Pritchett, Rev. Jackson, Dr. L. B. Baldwin, Sr., and Dr. Willie Peterson. Each of these Pastors made his contribution to the upkeep of the edifice and the molding of souls to Christ.

When Rev. Baldwin was called to Pastor New Zion Baptist Church, it was a small framed building setting her at the same location today near the road. During his 41 years of service the old part was completely renovated, and a new building was added to accommodate more space. All this was done with God's grace and the help of the membership. Under his leadership New Zion was completely furnished and the building was bricked. He became very ill, and his works were limited, but the membership continued the upkeep of the church as a new roof was put on the building.

On January 31, 1987, the Lord blessed us with the leadership of the Rev. W. L. Peterson. Three (3) years later the church family voted to go full time; a sign of growth as many church auxiliaries were put in place. Under his leadership auxiliaries from the past were reorganized and new ones were created. Of these include the Nurses Guild, Brotherhood, the Youth Church for Training Young Children for Christian Living, the Crusaders, the Red Circle, the Youth Choir, and the Young Adult Choir. He was concerned about the upkeep of the church and for every need of his members, so he became a full-time Pastor, available for his congregation in their time of need. Under his leadership one qualified nurse from the Nurses Guild staff was available each Sunday. Dr. Peterson also instituted a project to reach out to all the sick and shut-in of our congregation. Additionally, the church began live broadcasting services on the local radio station, a Tape Ministry was created, and a Christian Video/Bible Study for the Youth and Adult Bible Classes began to be taught on Wednesday nights. A tutoring program was also instituted and sports teams were created. Under his direction, many things were put in place. On June 11, 2020, he retired from Greater New Zion Baptist Church due to his failing health.

On August 19, 2020, Rev Jeremie Tremaine Turner, Sr was unanimously voted in as the newly elected pastor of Greater New Zion Baptist Church. God has and still is blessing this church family to prosper and grow, and for that we are truly grateful. We look forward to the great things that shall be as we build on the past with God ultimately in control. We do believe and know that "Greater is Coming!"

TO GOD BE THE GLORY FOR THE THINGS HE HAS DONE!

GREATER NEW ZION MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT

A Great Commission ministry on the move for Christ.

MISSION

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.”

-Jesus Christ
Founder

VISION SLOGAN

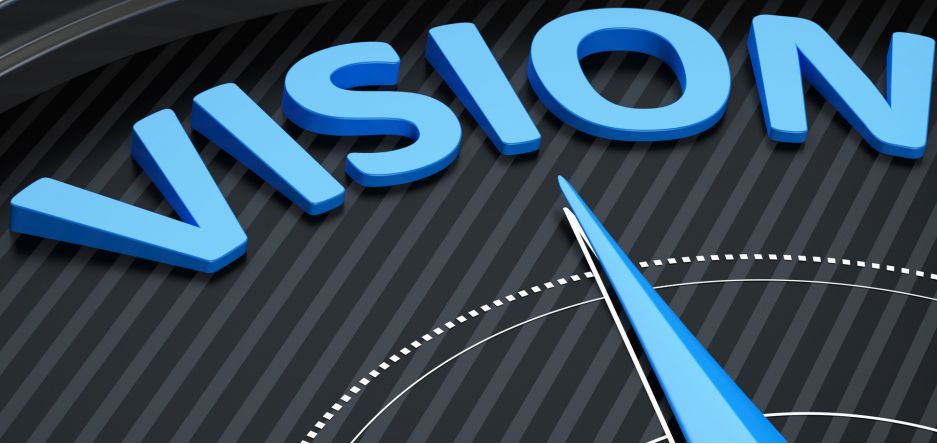
Exalting the Savior, Evangelizing the Sinner, Equipping the Saint

VISION STATEMENT

A Ministry-Minded 21st-Century church on the move for Christ exalting the Savior, evangelizing the Sinner, equipping the Saint.

Greater New Zion Missionary Baptist Church

**REACH UP...
REACH OUT...
REACH IN...**



VISION

Overall...

The overall corporate vision of the Greater New Zion Missionary Baptist Church is to become a Christ-centered, Bible-based multi-cultural, multi-generational loving community of faith. By being multi-cultural and multi-generational, we are fulfilling the "all nations" portion of the Great Commandment. Our vision is to be a ministry for all ages and stages in life that operates in excellence while maintaining a commitment to the command of Christ. To make this a reality, our church will endeavor to reach in three ways: to reach up by EXALTING the Savior, to reach out by EVANGELIZING the Sinner, and to reach in by EQUIPPING the Saint.

To reach up by EXALTING the Savior....

Our congregation will reach "up" by EXALTING the Savior through glorifying God in all that we say and do. We plan to accomplish this by being a congregation which bathes itself in prayer and through our intimate worship experience. While reaching "up" our goal is also to reach out.

To reach out by EVANGELIZING the Sinner Our congregation will reach "out" by becoming a community-based church. Our aim is to become outwardly-focused to minister to the disadvantaged and disenfranchised, giving them a place of hope, and even restoration. Through outreach, we assist those in need physically and spiritually. By acts of outreach, we are fulfilling the "Go ye" portion of the Great Commission. Additionally, our goal is to produce converts for Christ. Doing so fulfills the mandate of the Great Commission to "baptize disciples." Once baptized, our plan is to assimilate and take new members from "Membership to Discipleship."

VISION CONTINUED

To reach in by **EQUIPPING** the Saint...

Our congregation will reach "in" by being a ministry that operates as a family. Our aim is to be a congregation that endeavors to fellowship together and to become "one." Additionally, we value the youth and elderly equally alike and recognize the value both add to our congregation. We realize that we can glean much from our Seniors but also realize that the youth are the church of today. In fact, we value the contribution of each age bracket. Thus, our vision is to create a mentorship program between various age brackets. Because our church values every age and stage in life we also recognize the contributions of singles, couples, college students, young adults, and adults equally. Henceforth, we acknowledge that YOU are important.

Through life-changing Bible lessons, we desire to grow-up spiritually mature Christians - Christians who are no longer on the milk of the Word. Therefore, we aim to be a center for Christian Education through workshops and conferences. As such, we are obedient to the Great Commission command to "make disciples of all nations....and to teach them to observe all things that He has commanded." Ultimately, through worship, our ministries, and our vision, we want to make men and women prepared and ready for heaven.



FAMILY PLAN

At Greater New Zion, we are FAMILY:

- *Fellowshipping
- *Assisting
- *Mentoring
- *Intimate Worship Experience
- *Life-Changing Bible Lessons
- *You

30-year Bridge Plan



PHASE I

5 new laptops

Screens, Computer, and Mounted Camera for Livestreaming

Updated DVD & CD system

Food Bank and Clothes Closet

Updated playground, pavilion, picnic tables, and basketball court

Paved parking lot and metal gate

Additional church wing - nursery, office, classrooms, and common area

Updated vestibule furniture and table for Greeters Ministry



PHASE II

LED Church Sign

Church bus



PHASE III

Multi-purpose building/Family Life Center- Youth area, Chapel, Manna House (Food Bank), Clothes closet, Conference room, Inside track and basketball court, Child Development Center for Mother's Morning Out program, Classrooms, and Gathering area for dining

House of Hope - Duplex for abused mothers, homeless families, and recovering addicts

Foundation - for college students and struggling families



GOAL

"BUILDING A BRIDGE TODAY FOR A BETTER TOMORROW"