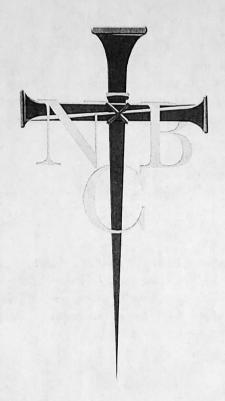
# New Beginnings Christian Church Vision Class



Lead Pastor: Rev. Andre Miller, Sr.

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## **Mission Statement**

- To teach the Children of God to be a positive force in the Christian and secular community and to become willing workers and zealous servants of the Lord.
- To continually grow in our walk with the Lord through dedication and faithfulness and minister to the spiritual, emotional, and physical needs of men, women, boys, and girls regardless of faith, race, and region.
- To grow spiritually and numerically as a church family as God directs.

## Vision

We seek to empower the lost, equip the saved, and educate the world with the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

## **Core Values**

#### - Commitment to Excellence.

- I will do my best at all times according to acceptable standards.
  - "And whatever you do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him." Colossians 3:17

## - Heart for Evangelism.

- I will love lost people because God loved me.
  - "for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."
     Luke 19:10

## - Relationship

- I will build a genuine relationship with God and others.
  - Jesus said to him, "You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 22:37-3

## - Integrity

- I will be honest in what I say and do.
  - "in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility." Titus 2:7

## - Servant Attitude

- I will put the interests of others before my own.
  - "just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many." Matthew 20:28

## - Teamwork

- · I will respect, support, and encourage my teammates.
  - "Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing." 1 Thessalonians 5:11

# New Beginnings Christian Church Leadership



#### Lead Pastor: Rev. Andre N. Miller, Sr.

Pastor Miller was born and raised in Detroit, Michigan and accepted the Lord as his personal Lord and Savior at 14 years old. The Lord called Pastor Miller into ministry at the age of 18. When he first received his calling he decided to ignore the call and live the life of a young man who resisted the knowledge of Christ. He came to find out that Jesus was the only way and that only what we do for Christ will last.

Since arriving in Arizona, Pastor Miller has been dedicated to serving the people of God and advancing the Kingdom work. His upbringing was Baptist and C.O.G.L.C. which makes him a diverse preacher and teacher. He believes that we are not defined by denomination, race, or age. His vision is for the body of Christ to grow collectively and unify for the cause of Christ.

Pastor Miller has decided to live for God and not turn around. He understands that when we are saved we don't become a super saint, but that we should continually strive to please the Lord in all we do. He would be first to say, "I don't know it all, but I know enough about Jesus to be effective, compassionate, and have a heart for God's people."

"As a preacher, pastor, father, son, and friend I need to be a living example of how to live in a dying world."

## **Church Leadership**

Executive Pastor: Rev. Jaqueline Miller

Pastor's Aid and Hospitality Committee: Pastor. Aisha Griggs

Deacon Chairman: Bro. Rodrick Mitchell

Ministerial Staff:

Rev. Anthony Montford Rev. Betty McGee Rev. Aisha Griggs Bro. Will Still

Music Ministry: Rev. Christie Elzie

Marriage Ministry: Bro. Rodrick Mitchell

Men's Ministry: Vacant

Women's Ministry: Rev. Lei Sean Curtis

Children's Ministry: Rev. Christy Elzio

Hospitality: Sis. Rochelle Jones-Mitchum, Sis. Johnetta Gordon

Greeters & Ushers: Vacant

#### What We Believe

## **About Unity Among Believers**

- We believe the body of Christ (the church) should operate in unity.
  - There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism; one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Ephesians 4:4-6

#### **About God**

- We believe that there is one God, the creator and sustainer of the universe, and He has eternally existed.
  - In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Genesis 1:1
  - God, who made the world and everything in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands. Nor is He worshiped with men's hands, as though He needed anything, since He gives to all life, breath, and all things. Acts 17: 24, 25
- We believe that God manifested in the unity of the Godhead which comprises of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
  - For there are three that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these three are one. 1 John 5:7

## God is: All powerful.

"For with God nothing will be impossible." Luke 1:37

## All knowing.

"... but God knows your hearts." Luke 16:15

#### All loving.

"And we have known and believed the love that God has for us. God is love, and he who abides in love abides in God, and God in him." 1 John 4:16

#### **About Jesus**

- We believe that Jesus is the Son of God, the Messiah- Our Lord and Savior. He is co-equal with God.
  - In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:1, 14

Jesus is: The only person to live a sinless life. "For we do not have a High Priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but was in all *points* tempted as we are, yet without sin." Hebrews 4:15

The only person to save the world.

"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved."

John 3:16, 17

The only way to connect to God.

"Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6

## **About the Holy Spirit**

- We believe that the Holy Spirit is co-equal with the Father and the Son.

- When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. Matthew 3:16, 17

The Holy Spirit is: God's spirit living in us.

"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."

John 14:16, 17

God's spirit teaching us how to live.

"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you." John 14:26 God's gift to us.

"Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2:38

#### About the Bible

- We believe that the Bible is the divinely inspired Word of God given to us so that we may know and understand the truth of God and His love for us.
  - All Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.
     2 Timothy 3:16, 17
- We believe the Bible has God as its author, salvation as its goal, and truth without any mixture of error in its contents.
- We believe that the Bible reveals the principals by which God will judge us and therefore is, and shall remain, the true center of Christian union and the supreme standard by which all human conduct, creeds and opinions shall be tried.

#### The Bible is:

The story of God and His people.

"This is the history of the heavens and the earth when they were created..." Genesis 2:4

"This is the book of the genealogy of Adam." Genesis 5:1

The story of Jesus and His life.

"Inasmuch as many have taken in hand to set in order a narrative of those things which have been fulfilled among us, just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word delivered them to us." Luke 1:1, 2

"This is the disciple who testifies of these things, and wrote these things; and we know that his testimony is true. And there are also many other things that Jesus did, which if they were written one by one, I suppose that even the world itself could not contain the books that would be written." John 21:24, 25

## The Bible Tree: The Tree of Life

- The Bible contains 3,566,480 letters, 810,697 words, 31,175 verses, 1,189 chapters, and 66 books.
- The longest chapter is Psalm 119 and the shortest and middle chapter is Psalm 117. The middle verse contains 50 letters. The longest name is located in Isaiah 18.
- The word "and" occurs 46,672 times throughout the entire Bible while the word "Lord" appears 1,885 times.
- Isaiah 37 and 2 Kings are alike. The longest verse in the Bible is the Esther 8:9 and the shortest verse is John 11:35. Every letter in the alphabet except for the letter "J" is found in Ezra 7:21.
- The name of God is not mentioned in the book of Esther. The model prayer is found in John 7.

The Lord desires each church member to be:

- An attender... not an absenter.
- A pillar... not a sleeper
- A wing... not a weight
- A go'er... not a gadder
- A booster... not a knocker
- A true soldier... not a slacker

## About the Church

- We believe the church is a community of men and women, free under Christ, following His orders when given and otherwise governing their own affairs.
  - And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch. Acts 11:26
- We believe the Bible instructs that a visible church of Christ is comprised of believers, associated by covenant in the faith and fellowship of the Gospel.
  - Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.
     1 Corinthians 12:27
- We believe the only Biblical officers are bishops, pastors, and deacons whose qualifications, claims and duties are defined in the Word of God in the book of Acts and the epistles of Timothy in particular.
  - And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. 1 Corinthians 12:28

- And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ. Ephesians 4:11, 12
- So when they had appointed elders in every church, and prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord in whom they had believed. Acts 14:23

## The Church is:

## The body of Christ and Jesus is the head.

"And He is the head of the body, the church, who is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things He may have the preeminence." Colossians 1:18

The family of God.

"Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, in whom the whole building, being fitted together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord, in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit."

Ephesians 2:19-22

#### The Bride of Christ.

"Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her."

Ephesians 5:25

## About the Last Supper (Communion)

- We believe the Lord's Supper or communion is an ordinance initiated by Jesus to serve as a reminder of one's identification with His death, burial, and resurrection.
  - And as they were eating, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke *it*, and gave *it* to the disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is My body." Then He took the cup, and gave thanks, and gave *it* to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is shed for many for the remission of sins. But I say to you, I will not drink of this fruit of the vine from now on until that day when I drink it new with you in My Father's kingdom." Matthew 26:26-29

#### Communion is:

#### A time to remember what Jesus did.

"For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks, He broke *it* and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." 1 Corinthians 11:23, 24

#### A time to examine our lives.

"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup."

#### 1 Corinthians 11:28

We observe the Lord's Supper every first Sunday of the month and it is open to all Christians.

#### **About Baptism**

- We believe that Christian baptism is the total immersion in water of a believer who has repented of sin and confessed Jesus as Lord and Savior.
  - Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Acts 2:38

## Baptism is:

A symbol of Jesus' death, burial, resurrection, and new life.

"Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life." Romans 6:4

## A way of uniting ourselves with Jesus.

"For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Galatians 3:27

For as many of you were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

## An outward example of an inner commitment.

"There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ."

1 Peter 3:21

## **About Salvation**

- God has a plan.
  - The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have *it* more abundantly. John 10:10
- Man caused a problem.
  - All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. Romans 3:23
    - The word "sin" in the Bible means: (a) to miss the mark, (b) to step over the line, (c) to do what you should not do, and (d) to fail to do what you should do.
  - There is none righteous, no, not one. Romans 3:10
    - The amount of your sin doesn't matter.
      - For whoever shall keep the whole law, and yet stumble in one *point*, he is guilty of all. James 2:10
  - Sin separates us from God.
    - But your iniquities have separated you from your God...
       Isaiah 59:2
  - The wages of sin is death.
    - For the wages of sin *is* death, but the gift of God *is* eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. Romans 6:23
- God made a provision.
  - Jesus, the Son of God, gave His blood for us (became our sin offering) and resurrected from the grave in order that we may have forgiveness of sin and eternal life.
    - who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness—by whose stripes you were healed.
       1 Peter 2:24

 But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Romans 5:8

For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures. 1 Corinthians 15:3, 4

- Salvation comes through faith.

• For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; *it is* the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Ephesians 2:8, 9

Here are the steps you can take to committing your life to Jesus Christ...

1) Hear the Word of God.

"How then shall they call on Him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in Him

of whom they have not heard? And how shall they hear without a preacher?" Romans 10:14

2) Believe in your heart that Jesus died on the cross for your sins and resurrected from the dead on the third day.

"that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9

## 3) Repent of your sins.

"Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2:38

\*The word repent means to "turn from our sin" and to Jesus Christ our Savior. By turning to Christ as Savior and then trusting Him as Lord, we experience repentance and demonstrate faith.

#### 4) Confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord.

"that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation. For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him.

For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved." Romans 10:9-13

## 5) Baptism

"For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ." Galatians 3:27

## Why should you be baptized?

To follow the example of Jesus.

When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased." Matthew 3:16, 17

## To follow the command of Jesus.

"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Amen. Matthew 28:19

#### **Church Structure**

For God is not *the author* of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints. Let all things be done decently and in order. 1 Corinthians 14:33, 40

#### The NBCC Structure

#### - The Head of the Church is Jesus Christ.

And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to behead* over all *things* to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all. Ephesians 1:22, 23

The church is a monarchy, not a democracy.

The leadership given to elders and pastors is one of responsibility to carry out the commands of Christ.

## - The Leaders of the Church

- The elders are the most commonly mentioned church leaders in the New Testament. The term elder, bishop, overseer, shepherd, and pastor are used interchangeably.
  - From Miletus he sent to Ephesus and called for the elders of the church. Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He purchased with His own blood. Acts 20:17, 28
- The role of the leader is functional rather than positional. The elder is a servant leader rather than filling a position. Specific functions include the following:
  - Being built up by the Word (Acts 20:32)
  - Shepherding the church (Acts 20:28)
  - Watching out for perverted leaders (Acts 20:29, 31)
  - Preaching, teaching, and equipping (Ephesians 4:12)
  - Ministering to the sick (James 5:14)
  - Serving as examples (1 Peter 5:3)
  - Refuting those who contradict Christ (Titus 1:9-11)
  - Exercising discipline (1 Timothy 3:5)
  - Selection of leaders

## - The Members of the Church

- The church consists of those who have committed themselves to Jesus as Lord, trusted Him as Savior and have expressed this commitment in repentance, confession, and baptism.
- Members' responsibilities to leaders:
  - Submission (Hebrews 13:17)
  - Respect (1 Thessalonians 5:12, 13)
  - Receive no accusations (1 Timothy 5:19)
- · Leaders' responsibilities to members:
  - Equip and train (Ephesians 4:12)
  - Shepherd the flock (Acts 20:27, 28)
  - Teach and exhort (1 Timothy 3:2)
  - Be an example (1 Peter 5:3)
  - Oversee needs (1 Peter 5:3)

## The NBCC Membership

- What is expected of me as a member?
  - · I will protect the unity of my church.
    - By acting in love toward other members
    - · By refusing to gossip
    - · By following leaders
      - Now may the God of patience and comfort grant you to be like-minded toward one another, according to Christ Jesus, that you may with one mind and one mouth glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Romans 15:5, 6
  - I will share the responsibility of my church.
    - By praying for its growth
    - By inviting the unchurched to attend
    - By warmly welcoming those who visit

Therefore receive one another, just as Christ also received us, to the glory of God. Romans 15:7

- I will serve the ministry of my church.
  - By discovering my gifts and talents
  - By being equipped to serve by my pastor
  - By developing a servant's heart
    - As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. 1 Peter 4:10
- I will support the testimony of my church.
  - By attending faithfully
    - not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together...
       Hebrews 10:25
  - By living a godly life
    - Only let your conduct be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of your affairs, that you stand fast

in one spirit, with one mind striving together for the faith of the gospel. Philippians 1:27

By giving regularly

On the first day of the week let each one of you lay something aside, storing up as he may prosper, that there be no collections when I come. 1 Corinthians 16:2

# Reasons for Joining a Local Church

#### - A biblical reason:

- Christ is committed to the church
  - Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her. Ephesians 5:25
- The Bible specifically tells us because of the relationship with Christ and the love for our brothers and sisters in Christ we should fellowship.

#### - A cultural reason:

It is an antidote to our society. We live in an age where very few want to be committed to anything. This attitude has even produced a generation of "church shoppers and hoppers." Membership counteracts the current American "consumer mindset". It is an unselfish decision. Commitment always builds character.

#### - A practical reason:

It defines who can be counted on. Membership identifies our family.

## - A personal reason:

It produces growth. The New Testament places an emphasis upon the need for Christians to be accountable to each other for spiritual growth. You cannot be accountable when you are not committed to a specific church family.

## **Church Affirmation**

- I am a member of New Beginnings Christian Church and my membership matters. I will grow here, mature here, swerve here, and carry the vision knowing our work is for the Lord. I won't be swayed by the attitudes of others and won't swerve from my service to my church. This is home and the Lord knows this is where I belong.

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