The late Reverend Tony Scott was the founder and organizer of the New Light Missionary Baptist Church. Rev. Tony Scott was a sugar cane farmer. He was married to the late Cecily Scott and they were the parents of nine (9) children.

In 1895, the anticipation of an institution of worship became a reality when the Reverend Tony Scott began the work to establish a Christian Congregation. This place of worship was located on a certain tract of land in East Baton Rouge Parish bounded North by lands of Nicholas Wax Cemetery, East by Bayou Sora Road, West by Mississippi Valley Yazoo Railroad, and South by Blount Road.

Through the efforts of the Reverend Tony Scott along with P. H. Handy, S.T. Davis, and H. Warner a church building was erected. Rev. Scott could then carry out his calling to preach, teach, and lead God’s people to repentance, praising, and worshipping of God Almighty.

A Trustee Board was appointed and the members were the late P. H. Patton, J.T. Davis, H. Warner, and Deacon Lawson.

The Deacon Board at that time consisted of the following: the late deacons Willie Allen (Head Deacon), Jim Early, William Brown, Anthony Brown, Sr., Abraham Ruffin, Nennie Gibson, George Cornelius, Steve Washington, and Daniel Johnson.

Mother of the Church was the late Sister Angeline Williams. The history from that time did not show the Deaconesses who assisted her.

In the year of 1935 a Charter was established for the New Light Missionary Baptist Church. New Light consisted of a one-room structure with sagging doors and windows that opened to the outside. It consisted of bare wood floors and a few homemade benches and chairs. The roof was tin sheet metal. A door was at the front and back of the building. In the wintertime heat came from a “pot belly” wood burning stove with pipes pointing out through the top of the little building. The adjoining “Nic Wax” plot was used to bury the dead for many years and even to this day.

In 1910 a storm destroyed the church and the church was rebuilt on the east side of the railroad track, which is presently known as Crane Street in Scotlandville, Louisiana.
Several years later the New Light Missionary Baptist Church was moved to its present location. It is located at 650 Blount Road, Baton Rouge, Louisiana on the corner of Blount Road and Scenic Highway, across from the Maryland Tank Farm.

In 1921 Pastor Tony Scott died. After his death the late Rev. R. W. Ball served as pastor. In the year of 1923 the late Rev. J. P. Handy was elected to serve as pastor. After many struggles, it became necessary to pray and look for another pastor. Sister Cicely Scott, Pastor Tony Scott’s wife along with others visited the late Reverend Noah C. Chinn and discussed the possibility of him coming and serving as the pastor of New Light.

The late Reverend Noah C. Chinn was elected in 1927 as pastor. With his divine devotion the church was rebuilt in 1955. Associate ministers that served under Reverend Chinn were: Reverend Jesse Bradford, Reverend Chippy Clark, Reverend Horace Early, Reverend James Early, Sr., and Reverend Henry Early.

Former deacons that served under the leadership of the late Reverend Noah C. Chinn were the late brothers: Willie Jackson (Chairman, Board of Deacons), Ben Banks, Willie Welch, Charlie Adams, Anthony J. Brown, Edward Stewart, David Franklin, Matthew Green, Jim O’Connor, and Nathaniel Brown.

Former Deaconesses that served under the leadership of the late Reverend Noah C. Chinn were the late sisters: Addie Brown, Beatrice Smith, Mary Lovie Stewart, Angeline Williams, Virginia Early, Nonia Jackson, Minnie Stevenson Jackson, Julie (Sadie) Stewart, Mary Henderson, Lou Ella Bradford, Albertha Banks Green. Sugar Brown Worthy, Mattie Rae, and Janie Brown.

Mothers of the church were the late: Janie Brown, Addie Broden, Angeline Williams, and Virginia Early.

The Lord was always first for the pioneers of the New Light Missionary Baptist Church. In spite of the small financial gains, the church prospered and enjoyed much success.
NEW PASTOR AND A NEW ERA BEGINS IN 1964

Reverend Dr. H. B. Williams, the present Senior Pastor was elected in August of 1965 to serve as Acting Pastor. In November of 1965 illness struck Reverend Noah C. Chinn and he passed away. Dr. H. B. Williams was officially elected Pastor of New Light in December of 1965. Former associate ministers under Reverend Dr. H. B. Williams at this time were: Reverends Henry Allen and Joe Taylor.

Former deacons served under Pastor Williams’ leadership that has gone on are: Edward Stewart, Charlie Adams, Thomas Washington, Fred Guerin, Charlie McCray, Calvin D. Williams, Sr., David Franklin, Alfred Bates, Isaiah Scott, Ben Chance, Wallace Moore, Essix Bradley, Plez Henderson (Chairman), Peter Lawrence, Jessie Golphin, Eddie Newton, Henry Maxie, Rev. John Bell, Esaw Brown, Earnest Jackson, Elijah Tyson, and William Myers.

Other deacons were: Eddie Lee, Jasper Roper, Carey Harris, Bennie McFarland, Sr., Ted Nelson, Joseph Allen, Clarence Grimes, Roosevelt Bell, Hebert Thomas and Ronald Jackson.


Deacons that have moved to a higher calling in the ministry are: Rev. Terry Brown, Rev. LeDell Maxie, Bennie McFarland, Sr. and Rev. Roosevelt Leopold.

Former deaconess served are: Mary Conic, Clara Hudson, Leola Smith, Sarah Banks, Eula Lathan, Mary Wells, Iola Wilson, Winnie Coleman, Ruby Bailey, Julia Evans, Sedonia Donaldson, Vearis Bates, Lillie Knighten, Mattie Ray, Christine Barrow, Joyce Duhe, Cherlyn Fugler-Young, Dr. Mary M. Henderson, Mary Early, Lizzie Alsander (former President), Janella Thomas (former Vice President), Mary Cossette, Leola Higginbotham, Alice P. Metz, Mozilla Valley, Arnee Washington, Elnora Cornelius, Lucy Clark.

Other deaconesses served and are laboring in other area of the ministry are: Earleen Stevenson (Church Secretary), Evangelist Eula Allen, Evangelist Ethel Tillman and Elizabeth McGruder.

Working together under Dr. Williams’ unrelentless dedication and most competent leadership our membership has increased greatly and we have grown spiritually from his divine teaching. Through his
God given visions and guidance God afforded us in 2002 to complete our Community Outreach Center. Dr. Williams’ dream was to have this Center erected for the Community. By God’s grace we are currently Reaching, Teaching, and Serving the North Baton Rouge Community. In 2003 a Dodge van was purchased to aid with the transport of our members to various services.

In 2004 the church added several ministries. 4-K (Karing Kitchen & Kloth Kloset) was opened to help the less fortunate. A Computer Lab, 4CLTP (Christian Clicker for Christ Computer Literacy and Technology Program) was established to help with the needs of computer literacy and high tech training. This Lab is dedicated In Loving Memory of Cherlyn Ann Fugler -Young.

Our Outreach center housed a diabetic study and the Pennington Biomedical Research study in 2005 that was rewarding for our community and church.

The deacons served under Dr. Williams leadership are: Calvin D. Williams, Jr. (Chairman), Kenneth C. Henderson (Vice Chairman), James Stampley, Jesse McCray, George Payton, John Higginbotham, Hebert Thomas, Roosevelt Bell, Curtis Stewart, Sr., Roosevelt Leopold, Isaiah Smith, Sr., Riley Underwood, Eugene Jackson, George Fugler, Sr., Evan Alsander, Jr., Walter Wells, and Solomon Matthews.

The deaconess served under Dr. Williams leadership are: Nettie Brown, Julia Johnson, Ethel Bell, Ethel Smith, Eola McCoy, Alizelee McCray, Eleiner Tobias, Taffy McCray, Cassie Dean, Eula Moses, Sylvia Henderson, Patsy Dabney (President), Patricia Stewart, Sarah Tyson, Mary Johnson, Dorothy Link, Carrie Lloyd, Sharon Metz-Williams, Irene Fugler (Vice President), Geneva Reed, Barbara Bell, Jeanette Wright (First Lady) and Geraldine Spears George.

Dr. Williams organized an Evangelistic Team and they are; Ada Allen, Evan Alsander, Jr, Linda Alsander, Roosevelt Bell, Dorothy Franklin, Norma J. Golphin, Mary Hayes, Reverend Dudley Jackson, Reverend Solomon Matthews and Evangelist Janice Wicker.

We are ever so grateful for the wisdom and knowledge Dr. H. B. Williams and his wife, Mrs. Wilma Williams imparted into this church. Truly the pair were unseperatable, and worked hard in the vineyard to point souls to Christ. Mrs. Williams organized several ministries in the church; the Nursing Guild, Sisterhood and High School and College recognition Day. This is just to mention a small part of the contributions Mrs. Williams made to the church. Her organizational skills will carry on for years and years in this church. Mrs. Williams has worked very faithfully with the Home Mission of the church. She was very involved in Global Mission as well.

As Dr. Williams, weaken from his illness he worked hard to keep the church together and to make sure we would not have to worry about getting a new pastor. Dr. Williams had a plan for New Light; one he firmly believe would help the church to continue to move forward. As Dr. Williams continued to teach and preach he was working on the vision God’s had given him. This vision, Dr. Williams had was built on a solid foundation.
The History of New Light Missionary Baptist Church

The Page Turns Revealing A New Chapter and A New Era - 2005

Moses-Dr. H. B. Williams Passes the Mantel To Joshua-Dr. Gil H. Wright
On December 31st, 2005, Dr. H. B. Williams installed our pastor, Dr. Gil H. Wright. This was a very moving ceremony and historical milestone with a pastor empowering another minister to continue to lead the sheep at the New Light Missionary Baptist Church. The mantel was definitely passed on as Dr. Wright continues to prepare at the waiting station for the day that God call the church home. Under his leadership we continue to point souls to Christ and exemplify living for the Lord will pay off after a while.

Under Dr. Wright leadership we were able purchase a 15 passenger van, remodel the restrooms in the old sanctuary, other improvements have been done to our facilities and pay off the loan for the community center. Truly these were blessings that were greatly needed.

Dr. Wright along with his beautiful wife Jeanette Wright provides marriage counseling to future couples and also meets with married couples to help enhance their marriage through the word of God.

He has established meeting personally with his new members, getting to know them as they get to know their shepherd.

Dr. Wright implemented the announcement monitors in the front and back of the entrances of the church. This is to enhance the means of announcing activities in the church, community and surrounding churches, etc.

As New Light continues her march, pointing souls to Christ we are empowered by the teaching of our pastor on Sundays and our mid-week Bible studies are anointed and second to none. Dr. Wright has been laboring in the vineyard for the past 30 years before he became pastor of this church. It is not uncommon to hear him say “I get great consolation when I pray”, knowing that God has been good to New Light and blessed her through the years of time.

Deacons and Deaconess who served under Dr. Wright’s leadership and have gone on to be with the lord are: George Payton, Lizzie Alsanders, Mary Early, and Dr. Mary Henderson.

Our associate ministers under the leadership of Dr. Wright’s are: Reverend Roosevelt Leopold, Minister of Divine Service, Evangelist Neldia Bell, Reverend Luceal Bibbins, Reverend Ramon Harrison, Reverend Joseph Lee, Minister Marcel Mack, Reverend Geneva Moore, Evangelist Eula Richardson, Reverend Dudley Jackson, Reverend Solomon Matthews, and Reverend Quinton Stevenson, Youth Minister.

Our present deacons are: Calvin D. Williams, Jr. (Chairman), Kenneth C. Henderson (Vice Chairman), James Stampley, Jesse McCray, John Higginbotham, Hebert Thomas, Roosevelt Bell, Curtis Stewart Sr., Isaiah Smith Sr., Riley Underwood, Eugene Jackson, George Fugler, Sr., Evan Alsander, Jr, and Walter Wells.

Junior Deacons: Demarcus Blacher, Jesse T. McCray, Darien Dabney, Curtis Stewart, Jr., Jared Menson and Larry Young.

Our present deaconess ministry consist of the following: Nettie Brown, Julia Johnson, Ethel Bell, Ethel Smith, Eola McCoy, Alizeele McCray, Eleiner Tobias, Taffy McCray, Cassie Dean, Eula Moses, Sylvia Henderson, Patsy Dabney (President), Patricia Stewart, Sarah Tyson, Mary Johnson, Dorothy Link, Carrie Lloyd, Sharon Metz-Williams, Irene Fugler (Vice President), Geneva Reed, Barbara Bell, Jeanette Wright (First Lady) and Geraldine Spears George.

Deaconess in Training: Connie Dorsey, Darla Duheart, Bertha Tate, Louise Thomas, and Almena Smith.

New Light Missionary Baptist Church is a waiting station. We can proudly say with the greatest of confidence “The Lord is good all the time.” For truly we have come this far by faith leaning on the Lord trusting in his holy Word, he has never failed us yet!

Our new church sign is now erected displaying the church schedule, time, temperature, and short reminders of life applications.

“Ask and it shall be given, seek and ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be open unto you.” St. Matthew 7:7.