



**Pastor Beverly Davis - First NCC Female Minister**

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Pastor Beverly Davis

Known to many as Beverly, 'Rev Bev', Pastor, or 'Nana', Pastor Beverly Davis has been a spiritual cornerstone of New Creation Church for 36 years.

Possessing compassion for others and a wealth of Biblical wisdom, she has been honored by the California Legislative Assembly for her community work and is recognized as an anointed counselor for personal, spiritual, marriage and family, and life-coaching.

Notably, she served 10 years as a volunteer Chaplain for the San Diego Police Department;

a trusted spiritual advisor for police ride-a-longs, memorial services, weddings and Police Academy graduations.

Pastor Davis joined New Creation in 1982 and was ordained in 1987. This achievement distinguished her as New Creation's very first female minister.

To our benefit, Pastor Davis learned about the Lord early in life. Both her great-grandfather and grandfather were ministers, and, growing up in Asbury Park, New Jersey, her mother made it mandatory to attend church every Sunday, and to participate! As a result, Beverly began teaching Sunday School at age 10! Many years later, she taught Sunday School for a year in Bangkok, Thailand.

As a nurse and behavioral health educator, Pastor Davis has applied her religious studies, and her administrative and training skills to many roles in the church:

- ◆ Bethel Bible Study teacher
- ◆ Minister of Christian Ed.
- ◆ Directed Women's and Youth Days, Pastor and Church Anniversaries, Marriage Workshop & Re-

newal of Vows.

◆ Chaired the first NCC Youth Group; developed first Ministers Manual.

◆ Established first sermon recording ministry and designed first church logo.

Pastor Davis currently serves as the Pastor & Spiritual Advisor for the Women of Faith Ministry. She has created three instructional books for the women, one on Forgiveness and Volumes I & II of "Ask Grandma" Everything you always wanted to know and were afraid to ask. Her Sunday sermons uniquely include handouts to encourage members' spiritual growth.

She wants us all to know that "prayer works." She prayed for God to search the world and find her a husband, and God did just that! She has been married to Mr. K.C. Davis for 33 years. It was God who sustained her while raising a family and working full time; earning a Bachelors Degree and taking graduate classes; and as she studied to become a licensed minister while actively working in the church.

Living out her calling, Pastor Davis' life and ministry

goals (the 4 H's) are to be Happy, Holy, Healthy, and Help to Others. Her two favorite scriptures are Psalm 91 and Proverbs 31:10.

She is a mother of 3, grandmother of 5, and great grandmother of 7. She is also 'Nana' to 20 little ones she nurtured over the years, and counselor and mentor to many more. Through God's grace, she is known as the one who opens her home to others, in fulfillment of her promise to the Lord when He blessed her and her husband with their home.

Pastor Davis continues to open her door and her heart to anyone that would like to come sit with her, and safely unburden their heart. She says, "People have things on their heart that they truly wish they could tell someone. I know how important it is, because I have had many people over the years come, and I have seen how it made a difference and the change that happened in their lives."

Happy, Holy, Healthy, and a Help to Others. Thank you to the esteemed Woman of God, Pastor Beverly Davis.

See Pastor Davis' favorite quote on Page 2

## *Message from Senior Pastor & First Lady*



Reginald and Karen Gary

*Greetings beloved of my Father!* As your Pastor and brother in Christ I pray that all is well and that your faith is strong.

In my efforts to "Hold on to Holiness" I have learned over the years how real our relationship with the Lord is. In the book of Genesis, the bible teaches us that God spoke and everything came to be. He created all things that exist including mankind, whom He appointed overseer of his creation by giving him dominion over the earth.

Though Adam fell and experienced spiritual death, Jesus' death, burial and resurrection restored us to that same reality that Adam surrendered to Satan and He has empowered us through the aid of the Holy

Spirit to live a life on this earth that would glorify Him. As a man of faith and power, my heart's desire is to remain focused with a spirit of evangelism.

I am reminded of the words that God gave Moses in Leviticus 19:2 "Speak to all the congregation of the children of Israel, and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the LORD your God am holy."

The Apostle Peter in his writings to the Church in 1 Peter 1:22-25 says: <sup>22</sup>Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, <sup>23</sup>having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, <sup>24</sup>because "All flesh is as grass, And all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away, <sup>25</sup>But the word of the LORD endures forever." Now this is

the word which by the gospel was preached to you. Amen

*As your First Lady*, I want to express my love for you and thank you for all your love and support you have demonstrated over the many years that we have partnered.

We at New Creation Church have been through a lot of trials and tribulations and these past few months have escalated and put even stronger challenges before us. Jesus said, "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)."

Pastor and I have personally looked in the mirror and decided to be who God has called us to be and I encourage you to investigate yourself by looking into your own mirror and to follow the lead of the Holy Spirit.

Be real with God and be real with yourself. We are in a real battle with a determined ene-

my and it will take every word that God has spoken throughout the ages to be overcomers.

Don't accept the lies of the enemy, "For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds (2 Cor. 10:4)." My prayer for you is that your faith remains through every trial and that you will continue to play an important role in something that is bigger than all of us.

As we continue to "Hold on to Holiness" God will fight every battle and turn all that was meant for evil toward us into good.

Thank you once again for your faithfulness and all your efforts to make New Creation Church of San Diego a light on the hill that cannot be hidden. You are truly a blessed people.



Pastor & First Lady

### *A Splendid Joy* *by George Bernard Shaw*

"This is the true joy of life...being used for a purpose recognized by yourself as a mighty one...being a force of nature instead of a feverish, selfish little clod of ailments and grievances, complaining that the world will not devote itself to making you happy.

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community, and as long as I live it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can for My God through My Community.

I want to be thoroughly used up when I die. For the harder I work the more I live. I rejoice in life for its own sake, Life is no brief candle to me. It's sort of a splendid torch which I've got to hold up for the moment and I want to make it burn as brightly as possible before handing it on to future generations."

## Financial Assistant



Suzie Lee

Tucked away in a quiet corner in Amos Hall off New Creation's Times Square, Financial Assistant and long-time church member Suzie Lee works diligently each weekday to handle the church finances.

She has served and worked with Pastor Emeritus Johnson and Senior Pastor Gary for the past 30 years.

Some of her duties include but are not limited to accounts receivable and accounts payable, payroll,

phone reception and many other general business items.

Suzie keeps church records organized and at her fingertips to: respond to member requests; prepare vital monthly cash flow reports for the Church Finance Committee; and ensure accurate yearly charitable contribution statements are mailed out each January.

Suzie thanks God for blessing her with her church family, and she admires dedicated and Godly members such as Vonda Brown, who models I Thess. 5:18, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." She appreciates deep wisdom from Pastor Emeritus Johnson who advises, "Never ask someone else to do something that you are not willing to do yourself." She is inspired by Pastor Harris' Jesus Walk, daily recorded morning

messages; and by the humor, teaching and love that Pastor Gary, "a true servant of God" imparts to all.

Suzie's love for her own family is also paramount in her life. She is the proud head of four generations: herself, daughter Crystal, granddaughter Jasmine and great-granddaughter Phoenix.

Growing up in rural Kansas, she received a firm foundation in Christian and Biblical teachings early in life. This foundation continued after she moved to Arizona, where she attended high school (on a Navajo Indian reservation) and college.

By God's grace, Suzie relocated to California, near New Creation's former location in Lemon Grove. She was led to attend after seeing the church van driving

around the neighborhood, picking up people for Sunday services. The driver back then was none other than Pastor Joe Murphy.

Resting on a strong foundation of faith, Suzie believes "...my ministry is to be honest and transparent in the handling of God's funds, and provide trustworthy, dependable service at all times."

Suzie's prayer "May God bless each of *you* so that *we* can continue to be a blessing to others!"

When you see Suzie Lee with her warm spirit walking the halls of New Creation, or hear her voice greet you over the phone, know that she is a person who serves this ministry in a manner orchestrated by God. She relies daily on her favorite scripture - Psalm 46:10 "Be still, and know that I am God."

## The Role of NCC Executive Board of Directors

*Did you know?* According to Church By-laws, our Executive Board of Directors is granted the duty to govern the church, and to meet semi-annually with the congregation at our June and December Business meetings.

The Executive Board is vested with the power:

- ◆ To perform any act and make any decisions concerning the welfare of, and on behalf of the church.
- ◆ To set clear rules, policies and establish priorities, and
- ◆ To work in partnership with the Senior Pastor to support the

Church and membership goals. Board Chair Brandy Anderson believes "Equally important to the *role* of the Executive Board, is *how* the Board executes the duties granted."

At New Creation the Executive Board, the Senior Pastor and the membership at large (congregation) form a partnership:

- ◆ All groups are represented on the Board. Each has an allotted time ("standing reports") at monthly meetings to voice concerns and ideas, obtain information, and vote on matters before the Board.
- ◆ The church membership is

represented by the Member-at-Large, to ensure information is received and disseminated directly between the Board and congregation.

- ◆ The church departments and auxiliaries are represented by the Leadership Council ensuring direct partnership with the Board.

- ◆ The church staff is currently represented by the Senior Pastor assisting the Board with operational matters of the church.

- ◆ Lastly, the Executive Board works directly with the Finance team to ensure each decision is within the annual budget approved by the congr-

regation and to review and plan for those items impacting the church's future, and financial prosperity.

Chairman Anderson states, "The Executive Board's primary goal is to make all decisions with the inclusion of all represented partners, and with prayer and humility; that we listen, acquire knowledge and convey our decisions, especially the difficult ones, with truth and loving kindness." Amen!

*To view current Board members, visit the Leadership display case located in the church Narthex.*

## *Ministry Spotlight: History of Partner Services*

In 2005, New Creation Church experienced a rapid increase in membership. This growth revealed the need for a central location where members could receive vital information about the church. At the same time, Pastor Gary had a vision that new members should feel more connected to their church. From his vision, the initial Member Services Ministry was created.

In the early stages, Pastor Gary collaborated with Sister Evelyn Bates-Clark to establish the new ministry. In the process, Pastor Gary began to lay out a plan that would help *all* members feel more connected to their church. Member Services was renamed and transitioned to the Partner Services Ministry.

Over time, Partner Services has grown tremendously. It is now fully established, with a team of elected officers, highly trained volunteer members, and expanded duties. The Ministry is currently led by two elected chairpersons and key officers. Throughout the years members have selected and approved a Statement of Faith, a theme, "Commitment to Serve" and a Scripture (Gal 5:13) that embodies the ministry.

### Duties of Partner Services:

Partner Services is an intricate part of the mission and ministry of the church. Known to all by their burgundy blazers, this enthusiastic group of volunteers assists Church Partners and New Members to make meaningful connections within New Creation. They can steer people to the ministry that is right for them, and for the church.



New members escorted to Partner Services

Much like a hotel concierge, the Partner Services Office is a hub for important church information and is key for keeping church partners well informed.

Upon joining, each person must attend the New Members Class, which is one of Partner Services' most important assignments. Working with Spiritual Advisor Pastor Darian Woodruff, Partner Services schedules classes on 4th Sundays. This helps new members experience a meaningful and spiritual connection to the church. Members learn about our church history, the meaning of our Statement of Faith, Church Purpose, and Slogan. They are instructed in detail about the importance of developing a personal relationship with the Lord. Our Senior Pastor Reginald Gary stops in to extend a personal welcome to the new members.

On Sundays the team assists 40 plus partners and guests. As many as 16 at once have accepted the invitation for church membership.



Team Members: (Front) Pastor Darian Woodruff, Monica Woodruff, T.J. Long, Djuana Bryant, Alice Daniels, Autumn Woodruff, Ronda Felder. (Back) Mark Thomas, Chris Fryson, Rochelle Love, Bruce Daniels, Tina Sylvas, and Jeffrey Pickering.

Some of Partner Services additional duties are to:

- ◆ Maintain the church membership database
- ◆ Assist with Pastor and First Lady's quarterly 'Meet and Greet'
- ◆ Greet first time visitors
- ◆ Assist all auxiliaries with dispersing pertinent information
- ◆ Pray with members
- ◆ Assist as needed with church elections

### Partner Services Team:

Pastor Darian Woodruff serves as the Spiritual Advisor. His wife Monica Woodruff currently serves as Chair, and Djuana Bryant as Co-Chair. A team of approximately 22 faithful servants make up the ministry.

Monica observes, "We are a family that supports and prays for each other. We also have fun outside of church, participating in activities such as bowling."



Partner Services also ministers to the community beyond church doors. Members have formed a partnership with nearby Marshall Elementary School. They mentor students and have also answered the call to provide toiletry items, clothing, and shoes for children in kindergarten through eighth grade.

The school is an ongoing ministry of Partner Services, and they are happy to receive any donations others would like to give throughout the year.

If you would like to donate, please bring shoes, clothing or toiletry items to Partner Services on Sundays. *We sincerely thank you!*

Also, come by Partner Services if you want to know more about serving and connecting within your church, or just to say 'hello'. We'll be happy to see you...*the hugs and peppermints are free!*

*"For you were called to freedom, brethren; only do not turn your freedom into an opportunity for the flesh, but through love serve one another." Galatians 5:13 (NASB)*



Lord God you loved us so much that you gave your one and only Son, that we might be called your children too. Lord help us to live in the gladness and grace of Resurrection Sunday every-day. Let us have hearts of thankfulness for your sacrifice. Let us have eyes that look upon Your grace and rejoice in our salvation. Help us to walk in that mighty grace and tell your good news to the world. All for your glory do we pray Lord, Amen

## *Remembering Our Savior's Sacrifice for Us!*

### *Easter Joy*

Jesus came to earth,  
To show us how to live,  
How to put others first,  
How to love and how to give.

Then He set about His work,  
That God sent Him to do;  
He took our punishment  
on Himself; He made us clean  
and new.

He could have saved Himself,  
Calling angels from above,  
But He chose to pay our price  
for sin; He paid it out of love.

Our Lord died on Good Friday,  
But the cross did not destroy  
His resurrection on Easter morn  
That fills our hearts with joy.

Now we know our earthly death,  
Like His, is just a rest.  
We'll be forever with Him  
In heaven, where life is best.

So we live our lives for Jesus,  
Think of Him in all we do.

Thank you Savior; Thank you  
Lord.

Help us love like you!

By Joanna Fuchs

## *NCC Family News*

### **Congratulations Jericho Poston!**

Jericho was nominated and accepted for two college tours at UC Berkeley; one 8-day tour at the College of Engineering, and one 7-day university tour, which he attended in April.



The Engineering tour recognizes his academic excellence and achievements in the Geo-Tech Science and Robotics program at San Diego Sci-Tech High School. He earned the university tour upon acceptance of his general application and essay to UC Berkeley.

Jericho is an active young man at New Creation Church. He participates in the Youth Ministry Choir and Praise Team, serves as an Educator in the Children's Ministry, and a few years ago, at age 12, he preached his first sermon during the Children's Day Program.

He is very talented and blessed. When you see Jericho don't forget to congratulate him and his parents!



Did you know  
New Creation Church  
has a By-Laws Committee?

&

They are diligently reviewing the current by-laws for updates and revisions to reflect the current needs and goals of New Creation Church

&

You - the Partners - will be able to review the proposed updates prior to voting to accept them at the June Church Business Meeting

&

Stay tuned...by checking the May church announcements for additional details!

### *\*Save the Date\**

New Creation Church  
Mid Year Business Meeting

Date: Monday, June 3, 2019

Time: 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Place: Church Sanctuary

Come out and support your church. Hear first hand the business of the church.

As a partner, the Executive Board of Directors goal is to keep you updated and informed about the important business entrusted to your elected leaders - the growth, finances, spiritual wellbeing and ministry direction of this church.

Hope to see you there...

*Come out and be a part of New Creation Church history in 2019!*



### Day 4

The next step in battling against your toxic thoughts is to replace those thoughts with God's truth. The best place to find God's truth is in His Word.

Why is it easier to think toxic thoughts than it is to focus our minds on the truth? **Read: Philippians 4:1-13**

### Day 5

A toxic thought contains poisonous material that can cause sickness and even death. We will identify and reject all toxic thoughts and we will replace those thoughts with God's truth.

In what ways do you renew your mind and focus your thoughts on God's truth? **Read: Romans 12:1-21**

### Day 6

Hebrews 3 encourages us to fix our thoughts on Jesus; however, that can be difficult with so many toxic things trying to capture our thoughts away from Him. Our thoughts are so easily influenced by such toxic things as influences, relationships, and words. Strive to block out and remove all of the toxic things polluting your life and instead fix your thoughts on Jesus. Fixing your thoughts on Him is critical in filtering out all of the toxins in your life.

How different is your life when you focus your thoughts on what is true and good rather than on toxic things?

**Read: Hebrews 3:1-6**

To view the complete 35-day Soul Detox plan, download the YouVersion Bible App (Google Play Store, etc.), follow instructions to start using the app, click on plans, and search for Soul Detox.

### *Church Slogan*

**A GREAT COMMITMENT TO THE GREAT COMMANDMENT AND THE GREAT COMMISSION  
WILL GROW A GREAT CHURCH!**

### *Church Mission*

To attract and win **MEMBERS**, develop them to **CHRISTLIKE MATURITY** and empower them for a meaningful **MINISTRY** in the church and a life **MISSION** in the world in order to **MAGNIFY GOD**.