

## ***Autobiography for Bishop Donald Newkirk***

Bishop Donald Newkirk was born in Kelly, North Carolina, the third of 10 children. He grew up on the farm. He finished East Arcadia High School in 1958 at the age of 16 years old. He later moved to Washington, D.C. where he later Volunteered for the United States Army and served for 26 years, 3 months and 4 days. He retired as a First Sergeant. He is a dedicated family man, husband, father, and man of God. He married his childhood sweetheart on, December 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1963 in Wilmington, N. C. He is the father of 6 children and 6 grand children.

Bishop Donald Newkirk found the Lord while in revival in the Panama Canal Zone under the Bishop Johnson out of Arizona. He was anointed to teach the word and was given to teach the Sunday school class. When the Pastor De Voit had to take a vacation/leave back to the states he kept the work going and growing the Sunday school to over 25 to the glory of God. Bishop Newkirk was transferred from the Panama Canal Zone to Fort Benning, Georgia, and continued the work of the Lord, Teaching Sunday School, Singing in the choir, and working with the youth as well as the adults. While stationed at Fort Benning, Ga. They received the family of the year award in 1978 from the Foster Parent Association of Columbus, Ga. The Newkirk's worked as Detention Home Parents with the Juvenile delinquent Department of the state of Georgia. The youth were placed in their home where they were nurtured and treated with respect and the love of God. The award was given for their dedication and success with the youth they helped in the program.

While in the military he attended numerous schools including; The U. S. Army Airborne School, Load Master School, Jumpmaster School, Advanced Non-Commissioned Officers Academy, he was third honor graduate out of the Drill Sergeant School at Fort Knox, Kentucky. He went through Instructor Training and subsequently was assigned to the Jungle Operation Training Center, at Fort Sherman in The Panama Canal Zone. He later was assigned to the Non-Commissioned Officers Academy where he taught Leadership. Bishop Donald Newkirk was one of the first groups in the Army to be trained in Equal Opportunity and given the task of investigating and reporting those act which were known to be against the soldier's civil rights to the proper authority, as well as facilitating seminars on Race Relations and Equal Opportunity. He attended Central Texas College,

On his second trip to Panama he was call into the ministry and under circumstances beyond his control he took over the work in Colon, Panama and subsequently moved the work back to the Canal Zone and located it in Margarita. Upon returning back to the United States he was introduced to Bishop C. O. Reid in 1984 at Charleston, S. C. His last duty station was Instructor of Military Science and Drill in the University Of New Orleans. He taught students from six Universities, Loyola, Tulane, Xavier, Dillard, Southern University of New Orleans, and the University of New Orleans.

He was ordained a Minister in the Apostolic Church in West Feliciana Parish, in Louisiana. The church we were in was located in Harvey, Louisiana. He became affiliated with the Church of God Apostolic in 1986 when he came to Greensboro, N. C. He was an Associate Minister with Bishop C. O. Reid at Wings of Healing in Greensboro, N. C. He served as Associate Pastor and Youth while at the New Beginnings Christian Development Center, Lexington, N.C. He has served as the Church Bible

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School Superintendent for the South Eastern District of the COGA. He was selected to be the Assistant District Overseer to Dr. Ronald Hash for the Southeastern District. He worked for a while at the Mount Beth-el Outreach Center in Burgaw, N. C. He is now the Pastor of the New Beginnings Christian Development Center in Lexington, N. C.

## *Autobiography*

Annie P. Pridgen Newkirk was born in Ivanhoe, North Carolina to the late Pearl Vernet and Henry P. Pridgen. She graduated from East Arcardia High School in Acme, North Carolina in 1962. Annie (Ann) as a teenager, sung in the junior choir in Moore's Swamp AME Church and served as the Sunday School Secretary while living at home with her parents.

On December 03, 1963 she married Donald Newkirk the son of General and Pearline Newkirk of Kelly, North Carolina. She took her stand as a military wife. Her first duty took her to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Republic of Panama, Fort Benning, Ga., and Fort. Bragg, North Carolina, Republic Of Panama, and later New Orleans, La.

While in Republic Of Panama she got saved in the Bible Holiness Church under the leadership of Rev. Devoit. In 1972

While her husband was serving his country, Annie (Ann) did not sit idle, but found something for her hands to do: Served as Finance Secretary for the Tabernacle Baptist Church Senior Choir, Columbus, Georgia. Received the Family of the Year Award in 1978 in Columbus Georgia. Served as Secretary for the Foster Parent Association, Columbus, Georgia. Received an Appreciation Award from the American Red Cross and a Letter of Appreciation from the US Army Health Clinic while in Republic of Panama. There, she served as a Red Cross Volunteer. Received her Licensed Practical Nursing Diploma in 1986, from West Jefferson Parish, West Bank Vocational Technical School in Harvey, La.

At present, Annie (Ann) as some may call her is working with The Forsyth Community Support Service. Serving her community working with the mental impaired. And last but not least is the First Lady of New Beginnings Christian Development Center., Lexington, North Carolina. Where her husband is the Pastor.