



**Robert A. Pope** is a native of Memphis, Tennessee and is the son of Charles and Earnestine Pope. He began his walk with Jesus Christ at an early age. He spent his early years at Pilgrim Rest Baptist Church and followed his father to Smith Grove Baptist Church. He is a veteran of the United States Air Force. He joined Mt Joyner Baptist Church and served as the president of the Brotherhood, Assistant Sunday School Teacher and on the finance committee.

During this time, Brother Pope began his career with the United States Postal Service. He held several positions that led to positions in Norman, Oklahoma (as an Instructor and Equipment Specialist), Washington, D. C. (as Project and Program Manager) and Topeka, Kansas (as an Executive) and returned to Washington, D. C. (as an Executive). In each of these locations he worked in Christian Education as a teacher or facilitator, Men's Ministry and the Trustee Ministry. In Topeka, Kansas at the Antioch Baptist Church, he served as President, Laymen Ministry and as Chairman of the Deacon Ministry.

While living in the Washington, D. C. area, he was a member of the Greater Little Zion Baptist Church and the Chantilly Baptist Church. At both churches he worked in Christian Education, Men's Ministry and the Media Ministry. At Chantilly Baptist Church, he received the National Evangelism Movement Certification.

When Brother Pope returned to Memphis, he joined with the New Hope Baptist Church and was accepted as a Deacon. He soon became Chairman of the Trustee Ministry where he oversees the church's Business and Finance. At New Hope Baptist Church, he has acted as Project Manager for the construction of the Worship Center, worked in Christian Education as a teacher, facilitator and Assistant Superintendent. He facilitates the Mid-Week Noonday Bible Study.

Deacon Pope's educational journey began with graduating Hamilton High School in Memphis and attending William R. Moore School of Technology (now Moore Technology). After his military tour, this journey continued at State Technical Institute of Memphis (now Southwest Community College) where he received an Associate Degree in Applied Science in Electronic Technology. This Degree led to the position as a Technical Instructor in Norman, Oklahoma where he continued his education at Oklahoma City University studying Technical Education. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Management from National Louis University in Washington, D. C. He also completed several workshops and seminars related to Project, Program, Executive Management and Process Management offered by the American Management Academy. His formal educational pilgrimage has progressed to a Masters of Business Administration Degree from Baker University.

Deacon Pope currently serves as the President of the Laymen Ministry of the Tennessee Baptist Missionary and Educational Convention, Inc. He is the Executive Secretary for the National Adopt-A-School Ministry and is the National Vice Commissioner and General Secretary for the National Baptist Criminal Justice Commission. Deacon Pope also serves as the General Secretary and Treasurer of the Tennessee Baptist Laymen Movement.

Deacon Pope has been married to Margaret for 47 years and they have three grown sons and six grandchildren.