

FLORIDA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION

Eleventh Episcopal District
African Methodist Episcopal Church

Memorial Celebration



May 29, 2021

Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr., Presiding Prelate

Ms. Patricia H. Wright, Episcopal President

Ms. Terisa White, Episcopal DOLA

Mr. Donald L. Russell, President

Mrs. Rebecca Pittman, DOLA

Ms. Jennifer Lewis, Benevolence Chair

THE FLORIDA CONFERENCE LAY ORGANIZATION
Memorial Service
(Liturgy written by Bishop Adam J. Richardson, Jr. 115)

Sister Jennifer Lewis, Presiding

Sister Jennifer Lewis

Like pilgrims, we travel from time into eternity seeking the heavenly city which our Heavenly Father has promised to those who are faithful. Since last we met, by God's own will and purpose, God has called from among us co-laborers and loved ones who sojourned with us in our families, in the lay ministry, and in the life and witness of the Church. We believe they were called to a new and larger life. They have gone for a nobler and better clime.

Song of Hope AMECH # 322 (Near to the Heart of God)

Brother Donald Russell

There is a place of quiet rest, near to the heart of God
A place where sin cannot molest, near to the heart of God.

**Refrain: O Jesus blest Redeemer, sent from the heart of God, Hold us
who wait before Thee, near to the heart of God.**

There is a place of comfort sweet, near to the heart of God.
A place where we our Savior meet, near to the heart of God.

There is a place of full release, near to the heart of God
A place where all is joy and peace, near to the heart of God

The Prayer

Chaplain Barbara Patterson

Holy God, Gracious and Eternal, we honor and adore You as Lord, Sovereign and Mighty. We are grateful for the time You have permitted us to spend with loved ones, friends and colleagues. We are grateful and glad for the lessons we learned, for the memories shared and the encouragement received. By Your mercy, we are also thankful for the blessed hope of immortality through Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ.

President Donald Russell:

Brothers and Sisters, these are they who have run the race and finished their course. We thank the Lord for their labor and faithful witness. Yes, we sorrow not for them as those who have no hope.

Roll Call and Tributes:



Jesse L. Burns, Jr.
(September 15, 1950 – September 16, 2020)



Florence Little Pierce

06/25/1924 - 11/18/2020



Henry W. McGill
March 19, 2019



The Reverend Maryetta Cromartie
June 14, 1943 – June 28, 2020



**The Reverend Gregory Wayne Hodges, Sr.,
July 2, 2020**



**The Reverend Ralph Ellis Ferrell
August 13, 2019**



The Reverend Queen Elizabeth Miller

Feb 7, 2021



Annie Mae Blaine

December 28, 2019



Mary Elizabeth Johnson

December 24, 2020



Deaconess Shirley Rhone Griffin

December 19, 1935-March 12, 2021

Marianna District: Sister Patricia McCallister



Mr. Richard Allen Patterson

06/24/2020



Walter James Roberts, Sr.

June 8, 2020



Vivian E. Cromartie

July 2, 2020



Pleasant Mae Atkins Fisher
1926 – 2020



Susie A. Ray
1933 - 2021



Mrs. Dosha Lee Bentley
01/20/2021



Augusta Richardson
April 17, 2021



Mildred Carpenter Moore
April 19, 2021



Florence Wilson Caldwell
04/2021



Frazier Weatherspoon
10/2019



Dorothy Dennis
June 17, 2019



Dr. Bettye D. Bryant
05/2019



Dorothy B. Williams
05/2021



Ada Williams
02/2021



Charity Simmons
10/2020



Albert Stevens
04/2019



Mary Jane Williams
03/2021



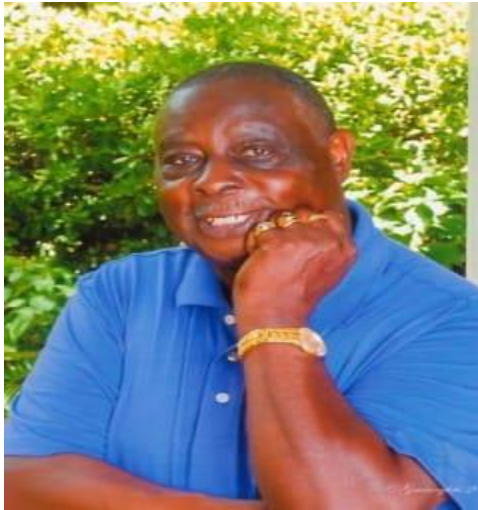
Mr. McElroy



Sarah Lawrence Simmons
October 15, 1923 – April 08, 2020



Joyce Ann Wright Wilson
November 25, 1936 – April 20, 2020



James L. Lawrence, Jr.

July 21, 2020



Beulah Bruce Gregory

01/09/1930 - 10/22/2020



Eddie L. Gallon, Sr.
April 12, 2020

President Donald Russell

O God, we thank and praise You for the life, love, and labor of our deceased colleagues, and loved ones. We thank You for the good they achieved, for the lives they touched, for the service they gave to perpetuate Your Church and to advance Your Kingdom enterprise. Yet, we stand in need of You. How vulnerable and fragile we are.

Strengthen us for the journey still before us. Prepare us for the heavenly reunion. We pray in the Name of Him who is victorious over death and the grave; In the name of Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Amen

The Song of Triumph (AMECH # 511) When We All Get To Heaven

Sister Jennifer Lawson

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus, sing His mercy and His grace;
in the mansions bright and blessed, He'll prepare for us a place.

**Refrain: When we all get to heaven, what a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus, we'll sing and shout the victory.**

Onward to the prize before us! Soon His beauty we'll behold;
soon the pearly gates will open; we shall tread the streets of gold.

The Lay Benediction

Sister Jennifer Lewis

May God Bless us with the true spirit of Christianity, that we may live together, not as man over man, but as lay persons working with God. AMEN