

# The Lamp Newsletter International



**Are YOU A  
PRANKSTER, JOKESTER  
or TRICKSTER...**



***Like I Used To Be?***

**Wanda J. Burnside, Publisher  
and  
Founder**



**Mrs. Wanda J. Burnside,  
Founder and Publisher**



**Mr. Richard Simmons  
Hollywood Celebrity**

I do consider myself a clown and a court jester, and I do love to make people laugh, whether they're laughing with me or at me.

— *Richard Simmons* —

AZ QUOTES

Dear Readers,

It's now the middle of May...where did the time go? I've been busy on one project then another and dealing with all kinds of things. WOW!

However, I just couldn't let April go without dealing with APRIL FOOL'S DAY. Yeah, the holiday that comes on April 1<sup>st</sup> every year. See, the Lord wanted me to share a side of me that used to be BIG in my life.

When I was a child, around 5 years old or so, I attended Sunday school with my parents and siblings. They, Rodger and Regina, were toddlers at that time. Well, my father was the Assistant Sunday School Superintendent and Mama was busy working in this ministry, too.

We were at Sunday school every Sunday. Throughout the week, we went to Tuesday night worship services and on Friday, we attended Family worship service. Our family was centered in worshipping the Lord and living righteously.

Well, I loved the Lord with all of my heart. In fact, I gave my life and heart to Him at the age of 5. Three years later, I was filled with the Holy Ghost or Spirit. I cried out for Him to fill me. I was Spirit-filled at home while ironing. Mama was a witness. She heard me speaking in my Heavenly tongue. I ran to her, and she told me to call my grandfather Elder Minor Palm, Sr., so he could hear, pray and praise God with us. Oh, what a special experience! Praise the Lord!

I was walking and living for the Lord . Yet, I was attracted to making jokes and playing "innocent tricks" on my brother and sister. It was funny laughing at them doing stupid things I made them do. I made them drink bitter Kool-Aid, threw water balloons at them, told them Mama called them when she didn't, I told them their

favorite toy was thrown away when it wasn't true! Oh, I got into a lot of trouble when my brother, Rodger, told on me. And, Regina, the baby in our family always cried real loud so my parents was sure to give me a good spanking for upsetting Regina...the baby!

Well, I decided it was no fun playing tricks or jokes on them! I decided to do my tricks and jokes on others at school! See, I was double promoted from kindergarten to the 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. I never went to kindergarten or first grade. I was smart...a smarty pants, too!

In school, I learned you could tell girls and ladies that their slips were hanging to make them look...but, it wasn't. That was funny to me. Then, someone told me to hold the water handle down when somebody was drinking water from the hall fountain, to pretend to be polite....and then...LET IT GO! WATER! WATER! It splashed their faces. I told children and teachers I saw a mouse running out of the closet...and WOW! Everybody was screaming and running around the room! All of this was funny to me and some of my friends who knew that it was a joke...a BIG LIE!

Now, I always got good grades in school. I was a little genius. But, I was punished at school...and the teachers were sure to let my parents know what I did! I thought that it wasn't fair! That's because I didn't play jokes all of the time, but mainly on APRIL 1<sup>st</sup>. I thought I could get away with my jokes and tricks on others. I loved to celebrate that "holiday."

Well, as I grew older, and reached 10 years old, I was bolder and more daring making jokes and playing tricks on...everybody! One day, I told a friend her mother was sick and was rushed to the hospital. Oh...my...she cried and asked our teacher to let her go home. When the teacher told her it wasn't true because the school policies wouldn't let a child tell another child that kind of horrible news. I got into trouble because the teacher told my parents what I did. My friend's mother was angry with me, too. And, I could no longer be a friend to my best friends. I deserved it...ALL.

Soon, my parents were totally upset with me! They told me I was NOT living for the Lord! They said I was lying and no longer serving the Lord the right way. My parents prayed for me and with me to get free from this terrible thing. They boldly told me I was a LIAR. Then, they told me that my father was...Satan! The Devil! They stood strong and read the Bible to me concerning this whole situation.

Soon, my uncle who wasn't even born-again said he didn't want me to visit him if I was playing tricks saying someone was sick or dead. I was mad at him because he gave me a joke book, a book of "funny" tricks and a plastic mouse to frighten others.

My parents got to the root of the whole matter and prayed against what I was being led to do. They spoke the truth to me concerning how Satan, the Devil, was tricking me! I was his servant, because I was following what he told me to do. He was behind all of this mess! They warned me to change and to read the Bible. Mama and Daddy made us, their children, turn off the television and seek God to wash our hearts and minds. Surrender to Him, ask Him to come in and wash our minds. Then they said we must ask God to fill us with His Holy Spirit.

They were committed to praying and seeking the Lord to change me! I CHANGED! The Spirit of the Lord came into my heart and I wanted more of Him to fill me. I wasn't the same. I no longer wanted to see someone be afraid by what I said or did.

There is no telling what could have happened in my life if I would have continued in this path of playing tricks on APRIL 1<sup>st</sup>. Satan was setting me up to get in trouble. I could had gotten beaten-up, shot dead, or hurt by someone who was mad at me.

**Readers, stand against evil!** Pray and ask God to give you power to come against evil. Speak-up! Our world is filled with anger and road-rage! We have shootouts and people fighting against one another. Everybody is on edge! We don't need to be involved in these games, tricks, and jokes. God is Love! He doesn't want evil to prevail! Live for Him!

*God says, "For I am the Lord your God. Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am holy. And you shall not make yourselves unclean with any of the swarming things that swarm on the earth," Leviticus 11:44*

*"...because it is written, "You shall be holy, for I am holy." I Peter 1: 16*

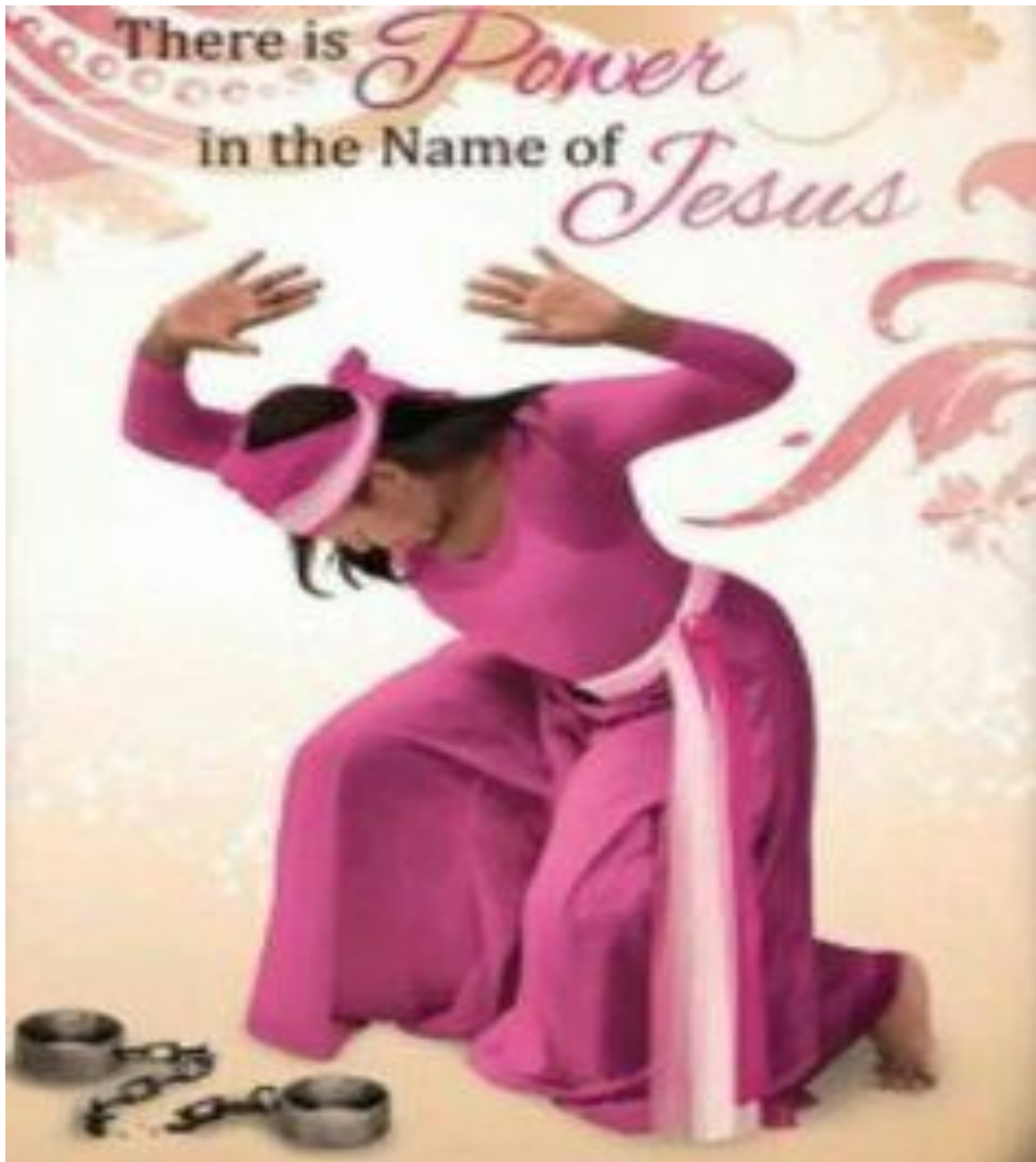
Luke 6:35-36 states:

*"But love your enemies, do good to them, and lend to them without expecting to get anything back. Then your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High, because he is kind to the ungrateful and wicked."*

*"Let no corrupt communication proceed out of your mouth, but that which is good to the use of edifying, that it may minister grace unto the hearers," Ephesians 4: 29*

***But the cowardly, the unbelieving, the vile, the murderers, the sexually immoral, those who practice magic arts, the idolaters and all liars-their place will be in the fiery lake of burning sulfur. This is the second death." Rev. 21:8***

# **IN THE NAME OF JESUS... BREAK EVERY CHAIN!**







## A Message from...

**Pastor Willie B. White**

**Rejoice in the Lord: Romans 12:12  
KJV**

**Rejoicing in hope; patient in  
tribulation; continuing instant in  
prayer;**

Today's scripture verse encourages us as we navigate life's journey. We will face many troubles in our lives. It is in Christ Jesus that we have hope, peace, and joy.

***“All who believe in Jesus Christ can and will rejoice in hope because He has overcome the world,”*** (John 16:33 KJV).

We can pray to God, knowing that He hears and answers prayer. More importantly, we are asked to cast all our cares upon Him, and He will take care of the problem (1 Peter 5:7).

God loves us, His people, so much until He does not want us burdened with troubles. That is why He asked us to give Him our problems; then, we must wait patiently on God's timing to take care of our adverse situations.

We are encouraged to hope in God as our hope trusts Him with assured confidence. God has proven trustworthy, as there is no failure in God.

In this troubled world, we are to pray constantly. In doing so, we are establishing a strong relationship with our God. Then we are to be of good courage, stand firm in Him, knowing that He is faithful to His word when He says, I will never leave nor forsake you (His people).

Rejoice in God, for He is in control.

white3285@sbcglobal.net

<https://theshepherdministries.org>.

<https://goodshepherdwritingandpublishing.com>

<https://willie-writing.blogspot.com>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUya5OrWPvzru4dpaTF8oKQ>

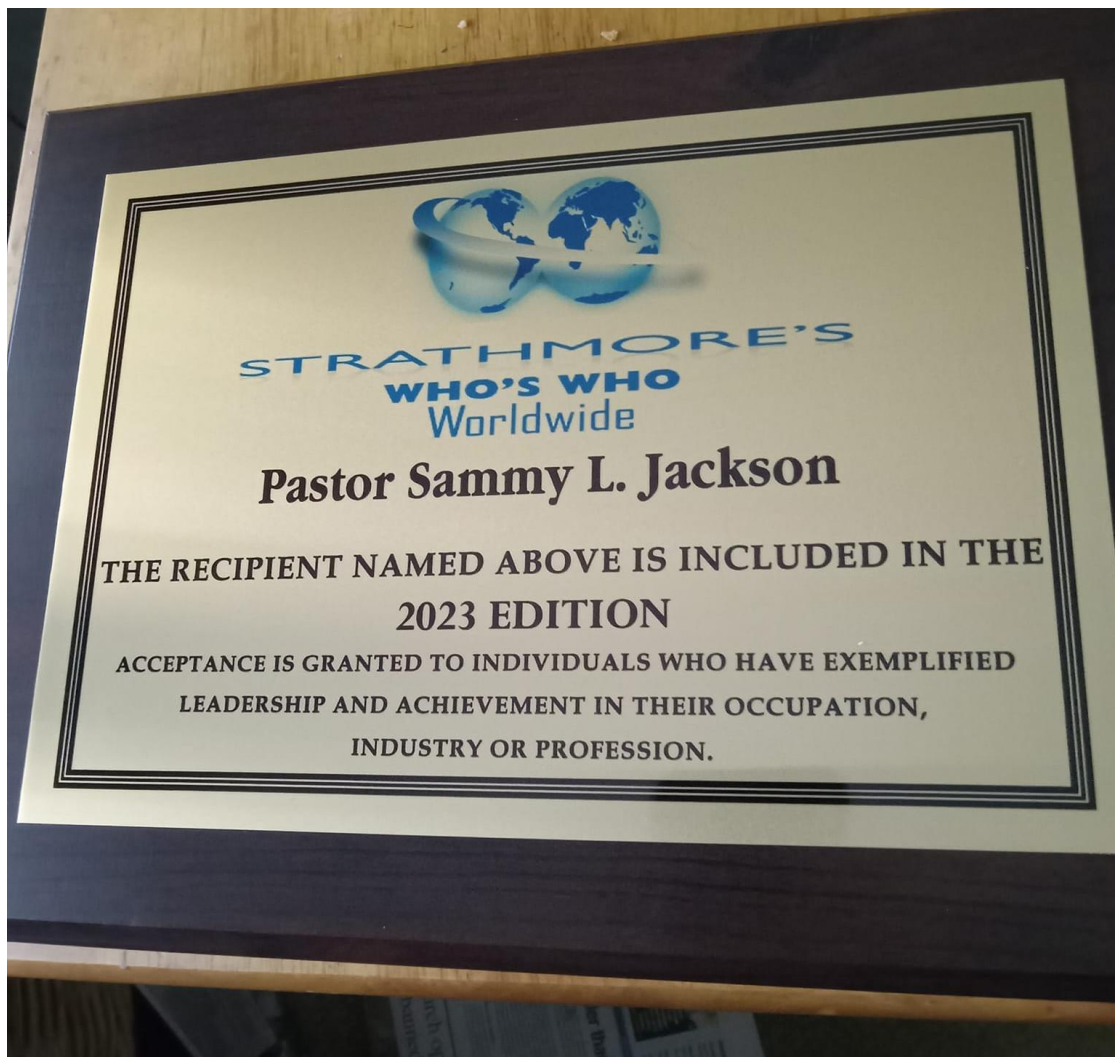
Staff Writer, PASTOR SAMMY L. JACKSON of Daytona, Florida says...

**"GOD IS DOING A NEW THING!"**



**These are some of the pastors and leaders who will be a part of the "LET GOD IN STREET REVIVAL." They are ready to embrace their communities and asking people to turn their face back towards God. We so excited about the plan of God with this event. We give God all the glory and praise His holy name.**

**Congratulations, PASTOR SAMMY L. JACKSON!**



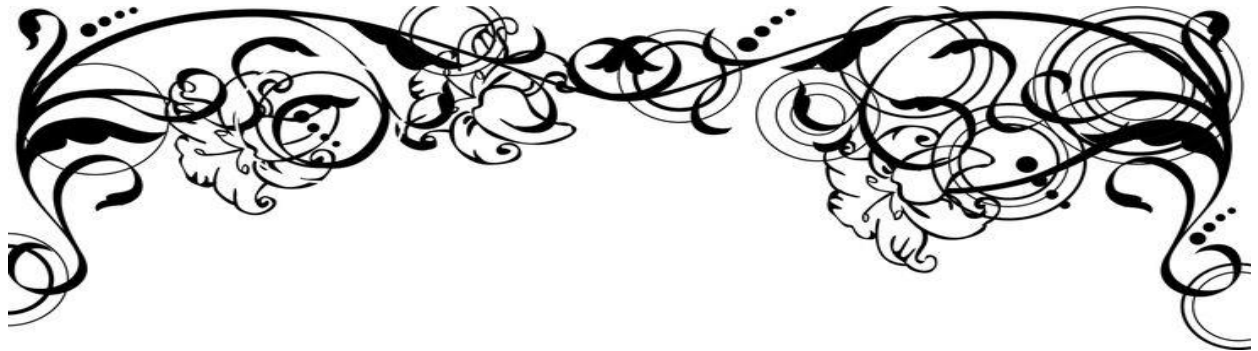




**The Volusia County Council of  
Florida...Highly honors our staff  
writer...PASTOR SAMMY L. JACKSON!**



# *Special Wedding Anniversaries...*



*26<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary  
Silver*

*My Cousins..*

*Hope and Stanford Holloway*

*Pages 8-11*

*Dear Friends*

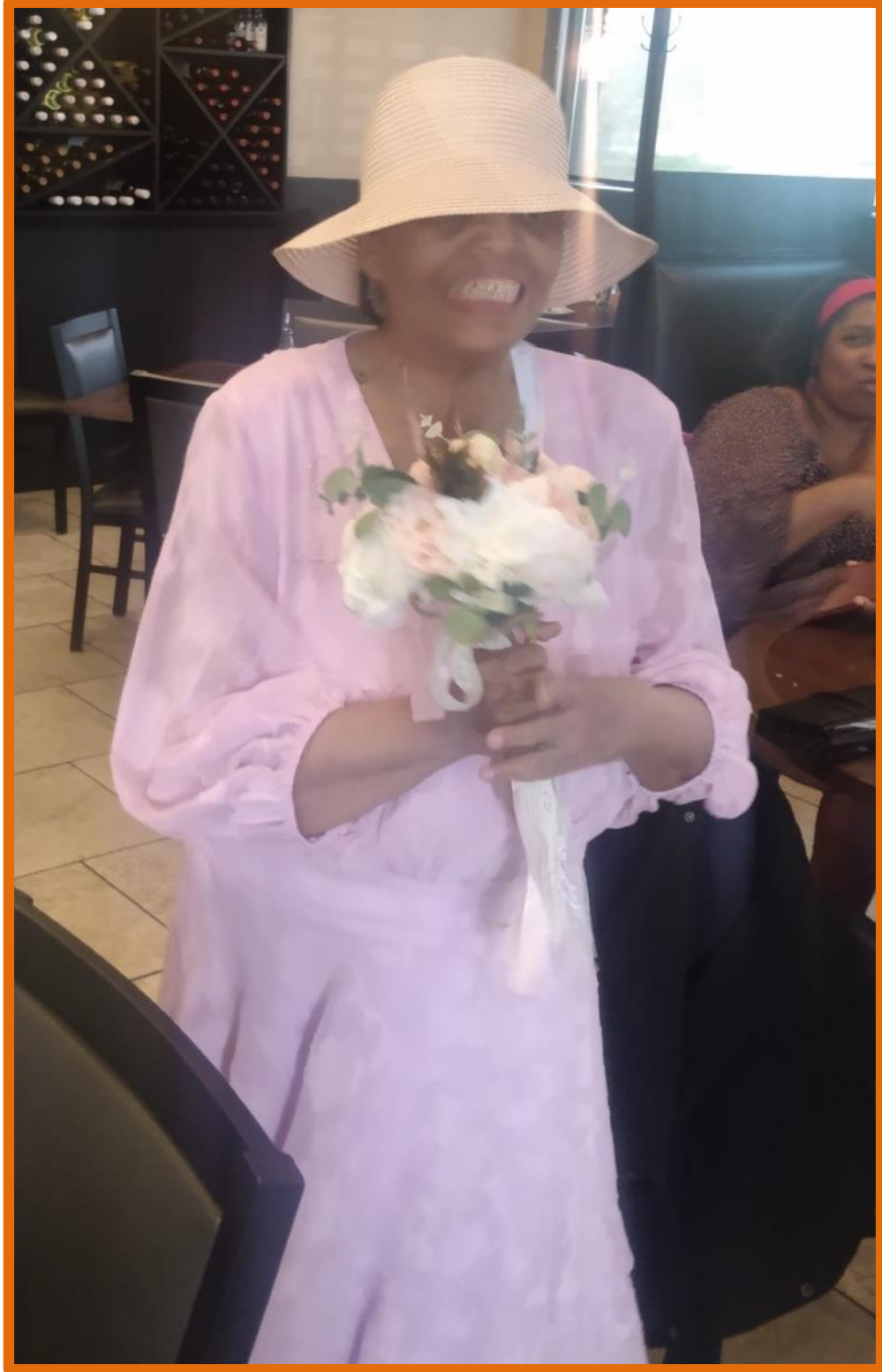
*55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversaries  
Emerald*

*Marty and Bill Prudhomme*

*Pages 12*

*Carolyn and Bruce Toussaint*

*Page 12*



***Mrs. Hope Holloway***



***Hope and Stanford Holloway***

***They had a glorious 26<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary Day...***

***The couple renewed their wedding vows and had a lovely dinner with some family members and longtime friends.***



***Stanford and Hope enjoying dinner with family and friends. Seated at the couple's beautiful table is Patrick Holloway( brother). In background, Lisa their sister and cousin, Mrs. Helena Barnes Williams facing this way.***





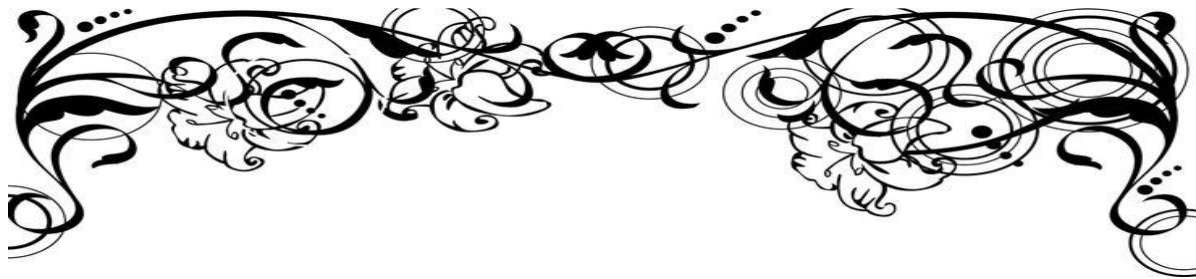
***My cousin, Mrs. Michele Barnes, helped with the planning of this special occasion. She was delighted to help Hope, Stanford and Lisa in any way to be a blessing to them.***



**Celebrating with the happy couple, Stanford and Hope, are from left to right: Pastor Doris Moseley of Dominion Life Church in Southfield, MI who officiated the vow renewal ceremony. Standing next to Pastor Moseley is Ms. Lisa Holloway who is one of Stanford's sisters.**



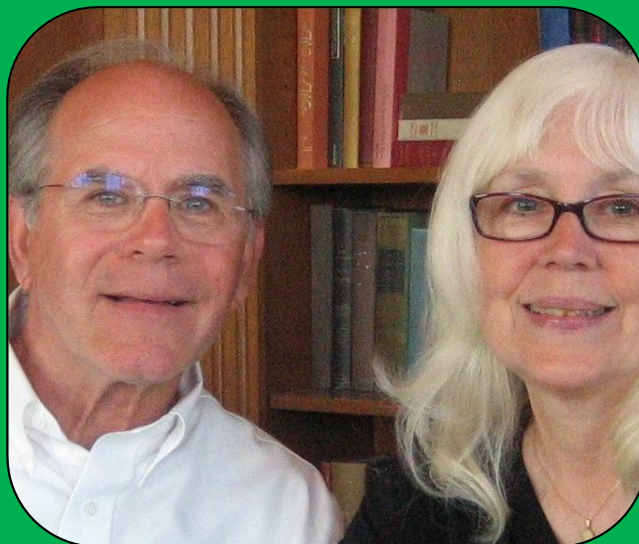
**55<sup>th</sup> - EMERALD WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES...**



**Marty and Bill Prudhomme celebrating 55 years of marriage.**



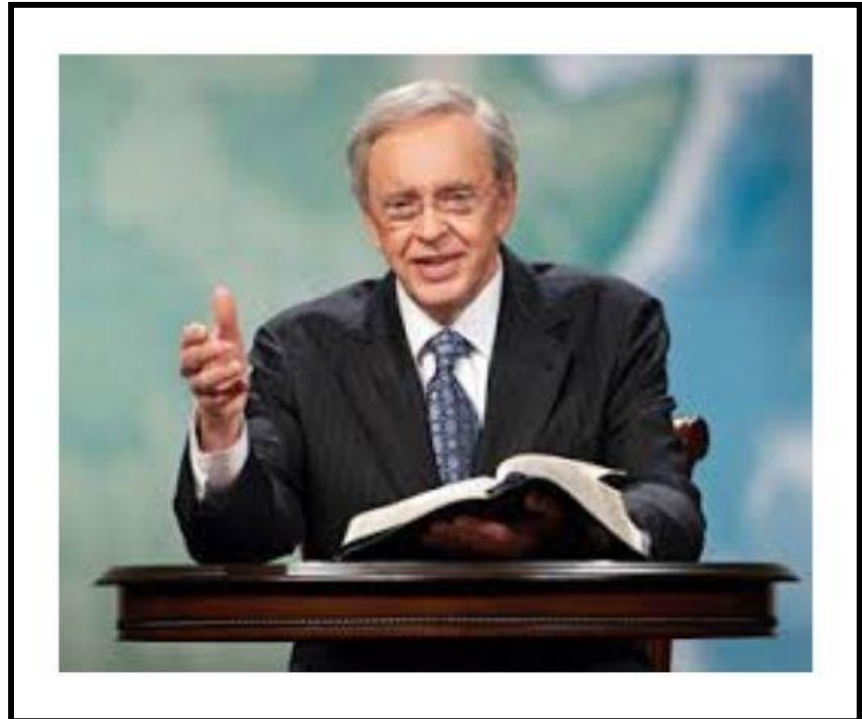
**Bruce and Carolyn Toussaint marking their 55<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary**



# The Reverend Charles Frazier Stanley

## September 25, 1932 – April 18, 2023

**Pastor, Television Evangelist, Bible Teacher, Writer, Author, and founder and president, In Touch Ministries.**



**Pastor Charles Stanley (1932-2023) served as founder and president of In Touch Ministries. He was also senior pastor of First Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia, for more than 35 years. He was twice elected president of the Southern Baptist Convention and was a *New York Times* best-selling author of many books, including *Living the Extraordinary Life*, *When the Enemy Strikes*, and *How to Listen to God*.**

**Offices held**

- Senior Pastor of [First Baptist Church, Atlanta](#) (1971–2020)
- [President of the Southern Baptist Convention](#) (1984–1986)

**For More Information about Pastor Stanley's life, ministries and vast accomplishments :**

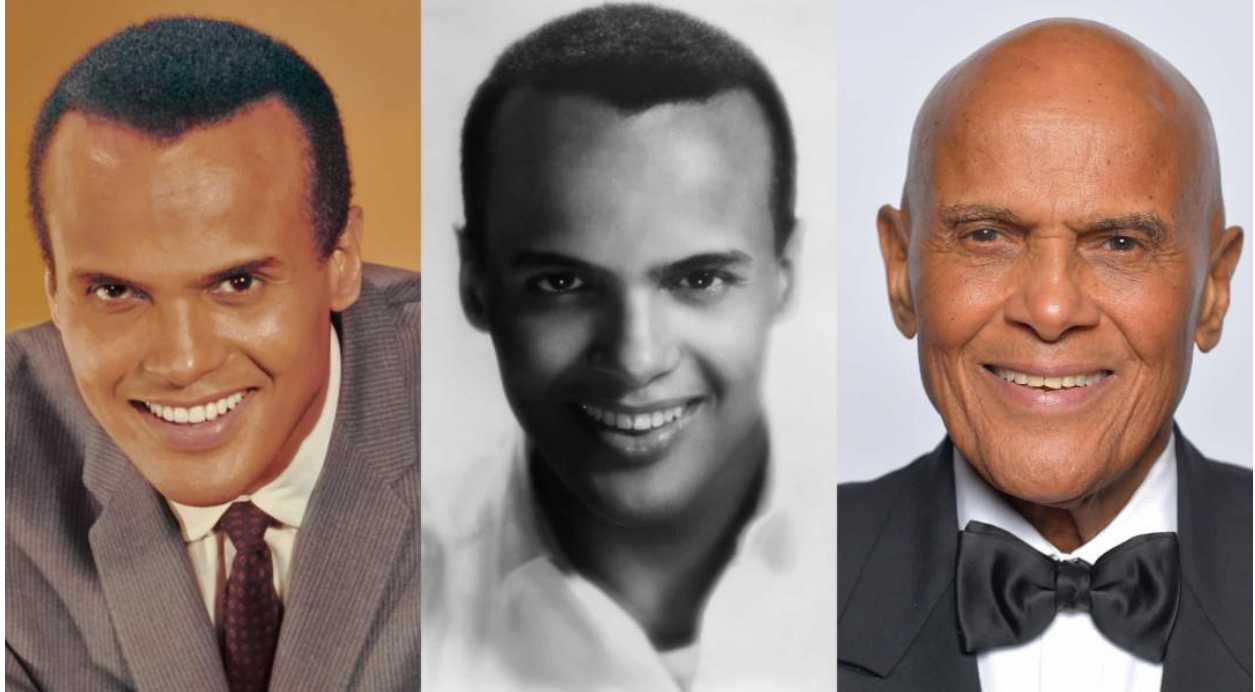
**Google and Wikipedia .**



# HOLLYWOOD, MUSIC, ACTING, and CIVIL RIGHTS LEGEND

**Harry Belafonte**

**March 1, 1927 – April 25, 2023**



**H**arry Belafonte was one of the show biz industry's most enduring stars. Born in 1927, he achieved lasting fame as the man who popularized the folk music scene of the 1950s, and especially the musical style known as calypso. The singer later ventured into cinema, starring in films such as 'Carmen Jones' (1954) and 'Island in the Sun' (1957). But the American entertainer was equally celebrated for his political activism. An ardent supporter of the civil rights movement throughout the 1960s, Belafonte was recognized globally for his humanitarian work, and was long ago appointed a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for his efforts in promoting a fairer and more just world for youngsters. The celebrated American singer and actor died on April 25 2023 of congestive heart failure. He was 96 years old.

StarsInsider Newspaper -Source

For more information: Google and/or Wikipedia

"We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him."  
2 Corinthians 5:8-9

The Official Arrangements  
for  
*Deacon Johnny Stewart*  
March 12, 1948 - October 25, 2022

**PUBLIC VISITATION**  
Friday, November 4, 2022 • 4 PM - 7 PM  
Clora Funeral Home (West Detroit)  
18957 West Warren Ave | Detroit, Michigan

**CELEBRATION OF LIFE SERVICES**  
Saturday, November 5, 2022  
Family Hour: 10:30 AM  
Homegoing Celebration: 11 AM  
New St. Paul Tabernacle COGIC  
15340 Southfield Drive | Detroit, MI 48223

In honor of Deacon Johnny Stewart and his commitment to education, please consider making a donation to the college fund for the Stewart Grandchildren.

**CONDOLENCES TO THE STEWART FAMILY:**  
\$JSCollegeFund | shernton1234@gmail.com  
5527 Northcote, West Bloomfield, MI 48322

**Deacon Johnny Stewart** was a great man of God! He was dedicated to his church, NEW ST. PAUL Church of God in Christ in Detroit, Michigan and Northeast Jurisdiction of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. His beloved bishop and pastor was Bishop P.A. Brooks.

I had the privilege of uniting with Deacon Stewart in church work and community services. He was a profound leader and a brilliant man in finances. He was well educated in budgeting, planning outstanding programs and projects to help churches to succeed.

Deacon Stewart was professional in every assignment he was given to build programs to let pastors and bishops excel and reach

their goals. Deacon Stewart was a master and leader in that area of church work and community services.

Deacon Stewart and I were on numerous committees, programs and special assignments to bring great things to help advance the people of God. It was an honor to serve with him on various task forces. We worked very hard and prayed for God to bless each adventure.

He was married to Evangelist Patricia Stewart. She preceded him in death. They have daughters and grandchildren. Deacon and Evangelist Stewart are solely missed.

**Bro. Stewart, Well Done! You were a gentleman! You were a GENEROUS GIVER!...Sister Wanda J. Burnside**

***Thank You for Your GENEROUS  
FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS!***



**Mrs. Carolyn Thomas-Huff**



**Mrs. Diana Winkler**



**Mrs. Marcia Jones Washington**



**Mrs. Carrie Williams**

***“The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully<sup>[a]</sup> will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.” 2 Corinthians 9:6-7***

**On behalf of TREASURES from HEAVENS MINISTRIES, we sincerely thank the Lord for these four caring ladies: Carolyn, Diana, Marcia and Carrie who stood with us in a very trying financial time. As reported, in 2022, our outreach ministries was stretched with numerous calls for help and support from churches, homeless ministries, youth and children ministries, schools and other groups.**

**Our ministries were overloaded with projects and special requests for us to give foods, clothing, school supplies, health and hygiene items, household items, and MORE! All year we were busy during each month and holidays! THERE ARE MANY NEEDS!**

**We still need financial donations for this year for the demands and many projects. We need your help! PLEASE CONTACT US: Wanda J. Burnside [-wtision@hotmail.com](mailto:-wtision@hotmail.com). GOD BLESS YOU!**



A Good Word from...Evangelist Kizzy Gray-Staten, Staff Writer



Refuse to be overwhelmed by the challenges you face. When you get rattled, you must take an even strain, quiet your soul, and settle down. Ask for wisdom and, without a doubt, you will receive it. Do not allow fear to overcome your senses. Remember that you are strong and courageous. You are an overcomer!

Ephesians 6:10-11

***“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the dev***



**HAPPY BLESSED 101ST BIRTHDAY**  
**Cousin Lillie Rosa Lester**

*This is the day which the LORD hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.*

**Psalm 118:24KJV**



*I have served the living Savior most of my life by helping people.*

**Mrs. Carolyn Huff-Thomas Honors Her Dearly Beloved Cousin,  
Mrs. Lillie Rosa Lester**



*As a teenager she worked in a canning factory.*

*During World War II, she worked in a  
government factory  
testing missile firing pins.*

*She was an underwriter for North Carolina  
Mutual  
and  
Atlantic Life Insurance Company.*

*She also worked as a beautician.  
Then she moved to Michigan, and ventured into  
politics.*

*She was hired as the first woman in the nation as a Sergeant-at-arms  
for the Michigan legislation.  
She retired in 1978.*

CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST



# WOMEN'S CELEBRATION WEDNESDAY

HONORS

## MOTHER SYLVIA LAW

MEMBER, NATIONAL  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

YOUR LIFE MAKES  
A DIFFERENCE!

The Church Of God In Christ presents [#WCW](#) ---“Women’s Celebration Wednesday,” --- a platform designed to spotlight the phenomenal women making an impact in the Church Of God In Christ. Today, we are pleased to honor one of the gems of our wonderful church, a brilliant mind gifted in the area of finance and administration, who has lent a lifetime of service to her beloved church, the remarkable, Dr. Sylvia H. Law, Member, National Board of Trustees.

Dr. Law, is a member of the Carter Memorial Church of God In Christ in Baltimore, Maryland, The Maryland Central Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction. She has served the Church of God in Christ, Incorporated for over fifty (50) years in numerous capacities.

Dr. Law received her calling to Evangelism in 1968 and was licensed under the late Mother Catherine Carter, the jurisdictional supervisor of the Greater Maryland Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction.

One of her first National appointments came at the Youth Congress, where she was asked by Bishop C.D. Owens and Bishop Willie James to maintain the financial records for the Youth Conventions. Sister Law accepted the assignment and served in this post until the creation of UNAC. Under the direction of Bishop Roy L.H. Winbush, Dr. Law was asked to serve as the Comptroller for all of the UNAC conventions.

In 1979, the late Bishop J.O. Patterson, Sr. appointed Dr. Law as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) for the Churches of God in Christ, Incorporated, thus becoming the first female to serve in a major administrative position in the church. In this role, Dr. Law established the National Accounting Department, developed national accounting and budget procedures and established the first formal budgetary process that is now used by the National Trustee Board of the church. After her first year of serving as the CFO, Sister Law created a surplus of over \$500,000.

Sister Law served in this capacity under the direction of Presiding process that is now used by the National Trustee Board of the church. After her first year of serving as the CFO, Sister Law created a surplus of over \$500,000.

Sister Law served in this capacity under the direction of Presiding Bishops Patterson, Ford and Owens. In 2000, due to health reasons, Sister Law retired from the position of CFO and relocated back to the Baltimore/Washington area, where she currently resides. She continues to serve her local church, her District, her Jurisdiction and the National Church. Currently, she serves on the National Trustee Board, elected in 2004 to that position; as the Secretary to the Leadership Conference Committee; and as chair of the scholarship committee for the COGIC Charities Board of Directors, appointed by the late Bishop G.E. Patterson.

Dr. Law holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Accounting from the University of Baltimore, a Master of Business Administration (with a specialization in Accounting) from Morgan State University, and the Doctor of Business Administration Degree from California Western University.

In her professional career, Dr. Law served as the Director of Finance at Morgan State University, as Director of Fiscal Services for the Maryland State Department of Health and Mental Hygiene (the first African American Female), as Executive Director of the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families and as Director of Management Advisory Services for the University of Maryland Baltimore County.

Dr. Law returned to the work force after retiring from the State of Maryland and served as the Executive Director for the Delta Research and Educational Foundation, a national non-profit foundation in Washington, DC.

She is a member of The Links, Inc. and has served as the Eastern Area Treasurer and currently serves as the Financial Secretary. She is also a Golden Life member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Dr. Law is one of our living legends, and one of our great heroines. Let's celebrate and show our love to our own, Dr. Sylvia H. Law. [#COGIC](#) [#TeamCOGIC](#) [#COGICMktgTeam](#) [#WCW](#)

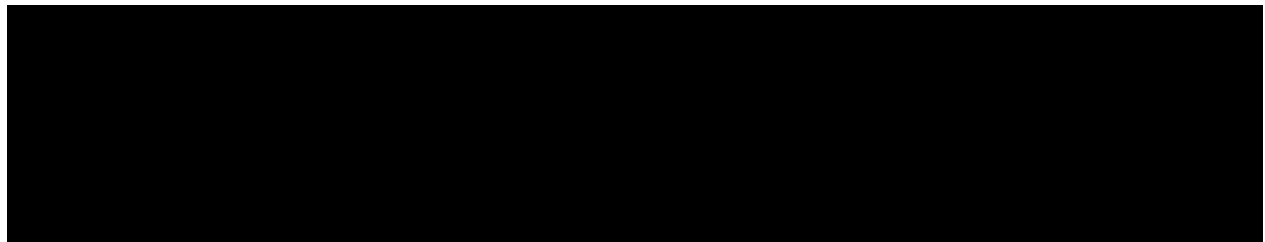
**It was a wonderful honor and pleasure to meet Mother Dr. Sylvia Law years ago. She was on the National Board of the Ways and Means of the Church of God in Christ, Inc. My dearly beloved bishop and pastor, Bishop Earl J. Wright, Sr. was the dedicated president of the committee.**

**Bishop Wright made sure that I met Dr. Law. I was blessed to have her mentor me in various areas. Every time the Ways and Means Board met in Michigan, Dr. Law warmly took out time to speak with me. She is caring and truly encouraging. I benefited from her counsel and invaluable advice. I thank the Lord! -----Wanda J. Burnside**

*We welcome the poetry of...POET PATRICIA TRAVIS*  
*Renowned poet, artist, illustrator, musician and painter.*



**Alright Beloved readers, Here is another classic poem from my Poetry Vault. It was inspired to share by LinkedIn's Lady Loren Benberry.**



**When I feel depressed-  
Like I cannot cope,  
God steps in;  
He provides me hope.**

**Letting me know-  
It is just a trial;  
To make me stronger,  
It will last for just awhile.**



**We are giving tests-  
So that we can pass,  
To a Higher life-**

**That is built to last!  
There is sometimes darkness-  
To appreciate the light;  
We are sometimes let down;  
To understand the Higher flight!  
Up to God-  
Who is set on high,  
His love and strength;  
I cannot deny-**

**If something tragic happens, Know it is necessary;  
For it is Divine purpose-  
Suffering is temporary.**

**Only God has the strength,  
To get us all the way through;  
For it is His promise-  
What He says - He will do!  
He said He will love and protect,  
He commanded we obey and respect;  
When He says and command-  
His word will help you understand!  
No longer would I feel stressed,  
You will have a deeper understanding;  
Knowing you are too blessed-  
To be depressed!**

**(C) May 2001  
Poet: Patricia Travis  
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***MAY GOD BLESS YOU GREATLY!***



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