

Homegoing Service
Celebrating the Life of
Deaconess Fannie Bell Billups
November 14, 1914 - March 6, 2011



Service

Friday, March 11, 2011 - 11:00 a.m.

Bethlehem Missionary

Baptist Church

1002 Rivington Street
Roselle, New Jersey 07203

Rev. Milton A. Byrd, Pastor

Life Reflections

Deaconess Fannie Bell Billups, the daughter of the late Bessie and Candis Leve Engram, the second of six children was born on November 14, 1914 in Montezuma, Georgia. She attended public school in Macon County, Georgia. She accepted Jesus Christ on August 1, 1926 at New Hope Baptist Church, Montezuma, Georgia.

Fannie married Sanders Whitfield and from this union two children were born, Thomas Martin and Edna.

In 1937, Fannie moved to Roselle, New Jersey and became a member of First Baptist Church, Linden. On February 3, 1953, she moved her church membership to Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church, Roselle. Fannie was a dedicated and faithful worker in her works for the Lord. She was a Deaconess, “Mother” of the church, President of the Floral Ministry for 35 years. She was the President of the Senior and Junior Usher Boards; and members of the Senior Missionary Board, Pastors’ Aide, Nurses Unit, and was a Sunday School Teacher.

Fannie was a hard worker all of her life, securing many jobs during her life time. She was a Sales Clerk at Howard Jewelers in Elizabeth for 25 years.

Community and friends were where Fannie focused her energies outside of Family and Church. She was a Life Member of the NAACP. A former member of the Knights of Phythias, Order of Calanthes Uniform Rank White Rose Court #9 and Queen Esther Chapter of the Eastern Stars. She was also a Volunteer at Saint Elizabeth Hospital, Elizabeth for many years.

Nana as she was called by her grandchildren and great-grandchildren was an excellent cook and homemaker. She was known throughout the county for her tasteful specialty “Sweet Potato Pie,” and her fashionable style of dressing, which earned her the name, “Foxy Fannie.”

Fannie was married to Deacon Otis O. Billups on July 27, 1958. He preceded her to glory in June 1991.

Deaconess Fannie Bell Billups went home, to be with the Lord on March 6, 2011 at JFK Medical Center, Edison, New Jersey at the age of 96.

She leaves to cherish precious memories: her son, Thomas “Sandy” Whitfield (Hazel); daughter, Edna Whitfield-Gallimore; four grandchildren, Desiree Burnett (Paul), Pamela Gallimore (Darren), Derrick Whitfield (Wendy) and Martin Whitfield (Deanna); fourteen great-grandchildren; two great-great grandchildren; her life and love lives on through her three nieces, Beverly Owens, Christine Newsome and Beverly Engram; three nephews, Louis Owens, Louis Massey and Curry Odom, great nieces and nephews, and a host of other relatives and friends.

*I have fought a good fight,
I have finished my course,
I have kept the faith.*

Sorrowfully submitted, The Family

Order Of Service

Organ Prelude	Janet Hollins
Processional	
Parting View	
Hymn	“Hold To God’s Unchanging Hand”
Scriptures	
Old Testament	
New Testament	
Prayer of Comfort	
Selection	“Lord I’m Trusting”
Words of Comfort	
Family Tribute	Grandchildren - Derrick, Pam, Martin, Desiree
Selection	“Jesus Will Fix It”
Acknowledgements and Condolences	Sis. Eudora Winston
Obituary	Sis. Eudora Winston
Solo	Renee Disarno - “He Touched Me”
Eulogy	Rev. Milton A. Byrd

Interment

Rosehill Cemetery • Linden, New Jersey

***Immediately following the Interment,
Family and Friends are invited to return to
Bethlehem Baptist Church Dining Hall.***

Pallbearers

Grandsons & Nephews of Deaconess Fannie Bell Billups

Derrick Whitfield	Martin Whitfield
Jaron Corbett	Shaneil Wright
Darren Wright	Louis Owens

Services Entrusted To:

G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC

206 East Eighth Avenue • Roselle, NJ 07203

www.ggwoodyfuneralhome.com

“Where Our Sympathy Expresses Itself Through Sincere Service”

A Yellow Bird

I wish I had a Yellow Bird,
That would not fly away,
I would put it in my little cage
and there he'd have to stay.
Then I'd give him something to eat
And water from the spring,
I'd sit down beside the cage
and sweetly hear him sing.



"Together Again"

Acknowledgement

The **Family of Deaconess Fannie Bell Billups "Foxy Fannie"** acknowledges with sincere appreciation every thought and act of kindness expressed to us during this time of sorrow. Your kind expressions of love and support are a great source of strength and much comfort. A very special thank you to **Fannie's Godchildren, Katrina and Robert Peterson, Tessie Debose and the late Mary Morris.** We will keep you in our prayers. May God continue to richly bless you. To God be the glory for work that Fannie has done.