

“Well Done, My Good Faithful Servant”
(In Memoriam to Reverend Dolores Henderson)

Written by: Sondra L. Dean

“Dear Lord, Where do I begin?

Please steady my hand and guide my pen.”

Dolores fought a courageous fight, she complete the course and by all means—kept the faith;
And then on Friday, May 17, 2013, she crossed the finish line of her most accomplished race.

She is suffering no longer and feels no more pain.

If only the void in our hearts were to feel the same.

I can't comprehend the countless lives she touched,

Nor dare to surmise all of those who loved her so much,

Because Dolores just had a way about her that drew you in.

There was nothing about Reverend Henderson that wasn't genuine.

She wore many pairs of shoes as oppose to wearing different hats;

That led her around the world and down various paths.

She was a daughter, a sister, a wife and mother,

She was a public servant at one time, beating out all her opponents to become Union County
first African American female coroner.

She moved to Brooklyn and worked in Manhattan, raising her daughter on her own.

They had each other and God, and so they were never, never alone.

Then one day Dolores announced, that she was becoming a minister, because she grew weary
of asking G-d to call on someone else to preach the gospel and spread his word.

She listening to the message that she heard, it was crystal clearer, that G-d was calling her!

“Well done Grandma, Auntie, Dolores, ...

Reverend Henderson... well done.

Interment

Tuesday, May 28, 2013 - 1:00 pm

Heavenly Rest Memorial Park

268 Ridgedale Avenue

East Hanover, New Jersey

Acknowledgement

The family of **Reverend Dolores Henderson** acknowledges with sincere appreciation
every thought and act of kindness expressed to us during this our hour of bereavement.

We will always keep you in our prayers. May God continue to richly bless you.

Services Entrusted To:

G.G. Woody Funeral Home, LLC

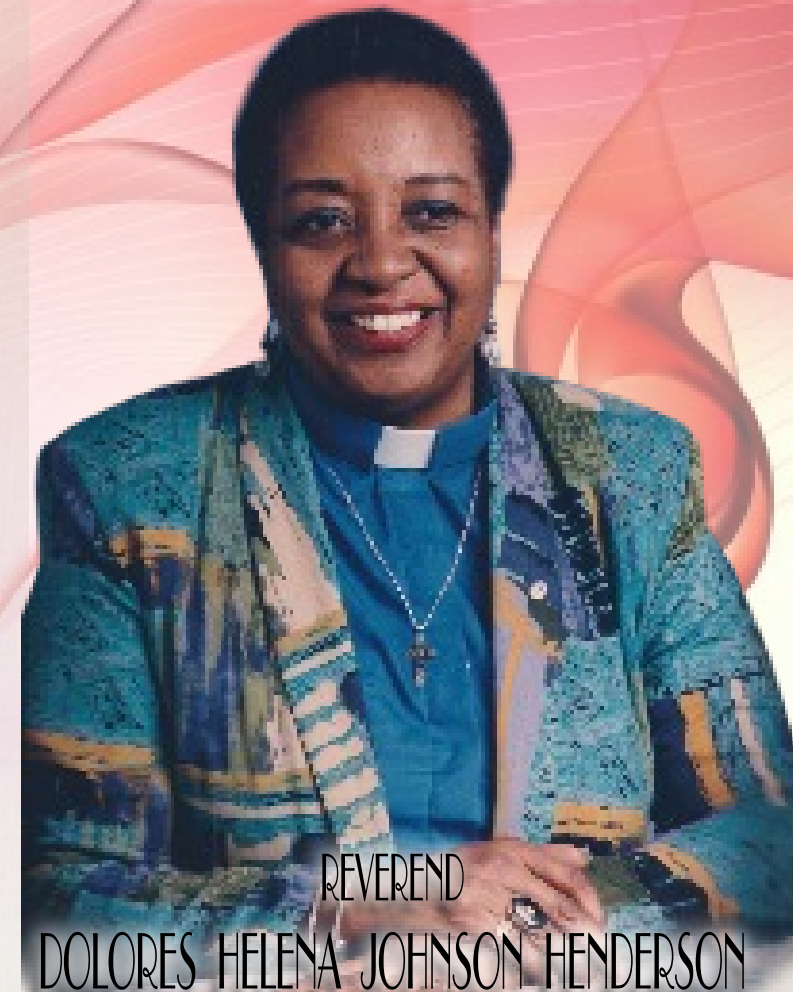
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SERVICE OF TRIUMPH
CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF



REVEREND

DOLORES HELENA JOHNSON HENDERSON

Sunrise

November 16, 1935

Sunset

May 17, 2013

“Servant of God, well done!

*Rest from thy loved employ; The battle fought,
the victory won, Enter thy master's joy!”*

Service

Saturday, May 25, 2013 - 12:00 P.M.

St. James United Methodist Church

532 Moriches Road

St. James, New York 11780-1365

Reverend Dolores Helena Henderson – Current Pastor

HONOR GUARD

John Stein
Neil Mingrone
Ted Kiladitis
Marty Thompson
Bill McKenna
Monique Robinson
Baskerville



Pastor "D" loved her home at the parsonage and was always concerned about the cost to heat the house and maintain the furnace. In her memory, the "Pastor Dolores Heating Fund" is being created to assist with those ongoing costs. Donations may be made to the church with a note specifying that the monies are to go to the "Heating Fund".

Park United Methodist Church (Brooklyn, NY) in 1990. She was next appointed to Trinity United Methodist Church (City Island, Bronx, NY), where she served for 3 years. Rev. Henderson then served as the pastor of Freeport (Long Island, New York) United Methodist Church from 1994 -1997. Her tenure as Superintendent of Metropolitan South District (the first African-American woman to be appointed as a District Superintendent in the New York Annual Conference), began on July 1, 1997 and continued for 7 years before she attempted to retire. However, she was called out of retirement to return to Freeport before she was assigned to pastor the St. James United Methodist Church (St. James, NY), where she served for 4 years until her death.

Dolores married Maurice A. Henderson on July 4, 1964; from that union was born one child – Mary Theresa Henderson. After her beloved Mary's passing, Dolores was very proud to be able to raise her granddaughter Mara, who attends Widener University (Chester, Pennsylvania).

Following in another family tradition, Dolores was an avid (some might say rabid!) New York Giants fan and was a long-time fan of the New York Yankees as well. She had a beautiful Alto voice, and sang in the Gospel Choir at Second Baptist Church (Roselle, NJ) with her mother. She was often heard singing solos and duets in churches and in the homes of friends and family. Dolores especially adored the sacred poetry of Issac Watts and the music of the Psalms.

Dolores Helena Johnson Henderson moved from the parsonage of St. James United Methodist Church to her mansion in the sky when she passed away on Friday, May 17, 2013 at the age of 77. She was predeceased by 7 siblings, Frances Naomi Johnson, Beulah M. Johnson, Iva M. Johnson, Mabel L. Johnson, Henry Raymond Johnson, Thelma Viola Smith and Randolph Leroy Johnson.

Dolores is survived by her granddaughter, Mara Helena Rani Watkins; a devoted niece, Viola Johnson; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends. The void felt by family, friends, congregants, colleagues, and everyone she touched will only be filled by her memory.

Biography

Reverend Dolores Helena Johnson Henderson was born on November 16, 1935 in Elizabeth, New Jersey, daughter of Viola Helena Davis Johnson and Rev. Henry Wise Johnson, and the youngest of their eight children. She was named Dolores by her sisters. Dolores grew up in Roselle, New Jersey and was graduated from Abraham Clark High School where she excelled not only in her academics and music, but also in softball, track, lacrosse and soccer. She had also been the captain of the debate team.

Dolores in fact, so greatly excelled at sports that she was given a full athletic scholarship to attend Barnard College (New York, NY) and began her studies of the sciences there. Following graduation, she earned a masters degree in biology from New York University, and then spent several years working in community health and family planning. She also held the elected position of Coroner in Union County (New Jersey), the first woman to to so.

In 1970, she turned her brilliant mind to another frontier and competed on the television game show *Jeopardy!* She was a five-time champion and returned to the show's Tournament of Champions in 1971. She won that, too.

In 1984, she became an investigator for the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, also working as the Federal Woman's Program manager there.

Dolores then, (having been a lay member of Grace United Methodist Church (Brooklyn, NY) for 26 years) heard and heeded the call of God and joined the ministry. She was following in the footsteps of her Baptist minister father, as well as her grandfather, Rev. Joseph Lockwood Davis, uncle, Rev. Joseph Norwood Davis and aunt, Rev. Mary Davis Hundley (all of whom were Methodist Episcopal Elders). She earned a Masters in Divinity from New York Theological Seminary in 1991. Rev. Henderson's first appointment was as Assistant Pastor of Vanderveer

The Prelude	
“Servant of God”	Viola Johnson
Opening Hymn.....	# 733 - “Marching To Zion”
Words of Comfort and Greeting.....	Rev. Leo Curry
Prayer	Rev. Leo Curry
Solo	“How Great Thou Art” - Rodney Davis
Prayer of Thanksgiving.....	Patricia Cook
The Lord’s Prayer	Patricia Cook and Congregation
Words From the Physician.....	Dr. Melissa Henretta
To The Family.....	“I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry” Anne Buckley
Reading Isaiah 26:1-4, 19	Iva E. Ferrell
Biography of “Pastor D”	Rev. Lakshimi Hancock
Musical Selection	“He’s Alive” - St. James Chancel Choir
New Testament Scripture II Timothy 4:6-7, 17-18 ...	Red Morgan
Solo.....	“In The Garden” - SohYoung Segredo
The Gospel John 20:11-18	Anne Buckley
Remembrances’ of Dolores	Open to All
Eulogy	Bishop Martin D. McLee
Commendation	Bishop Martin D. McLee
Hymn.....	“Amazing Grace” – St. James Chancel Choir
Closing Hymn	“When We All Get To Heaven”

Immediately following the service, family and friends are invited to remain for a repast that will be served in the Reception Hall of St. James United Methodist Church



PRECIOUS MEMORIES