

# *Celebration of Life*

*Rev. Dr. Verna L. Coburn*

*Sunrise  
July 17, 1949*

*Sunset  
September 25, 2021*



*Saturday, October 2, 2021*

**Viewing: 1:00 p.m.**

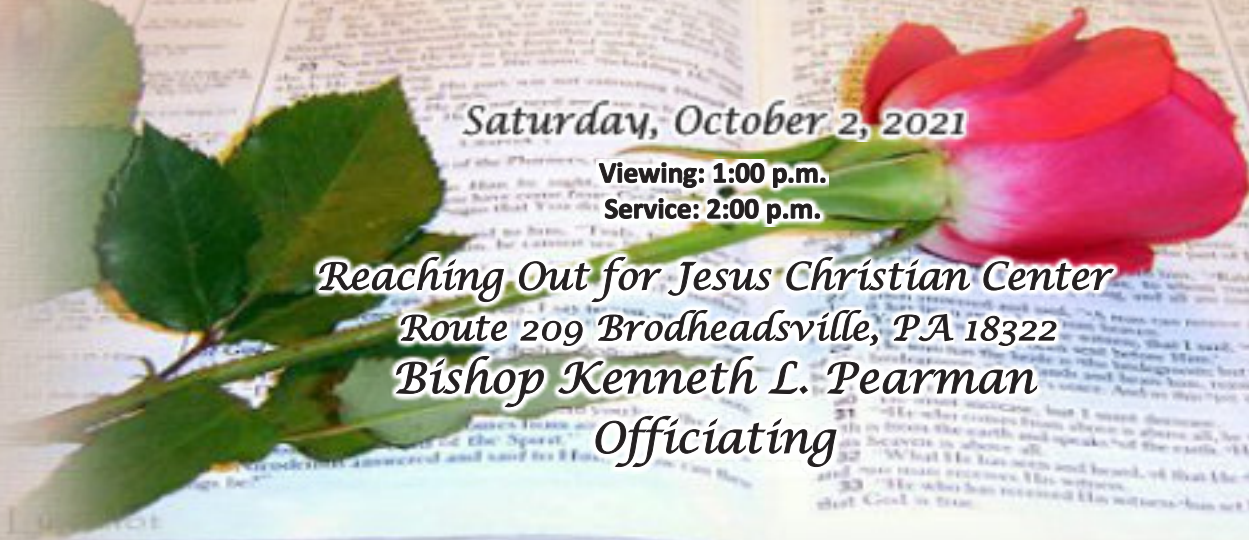
**Service: 2:00 p.m.**

*Reaching Out for Jesus Christian Center*

*Route 209 Brodheadsville, PA 18322*

*Bishop Kenneth L. Pearman*

*Officiating*



## *Celebration of Life*

Reverend Dr. Verna Lorraine Coburn was born July 17, 1949, to the late Robert and Pearl Monroe. Verna grew up in the Bronx, attended New York City Public schools and was the third of five children. Verna was a stay-at-home mother to Shawan Fox and Letta Brewington-Smith for the first 12 years of their lives. However, in 1983, Verna joined Health Insurance Plan of Greater New York, where she worked as a Medicare Reconciliation Clerk until retiring in June of 2006.

In November of 1990, Verna married her best friend and loving husband, Jimmy Coburn. Over the past 31 years, the two of them have supported and worked side by side with each other in their private and spiritual lives. Their covenant relationship indeed honored their love and reverence for God who created heaven and earth, and was an example for young and old married couples alike.

Verna was known as an exceptional cook, and she loved to feed any and every one she encountered. Family and friends often asked her to make her famous sweet potato muffins, cream cheese pound cakes, sweet potato pies, and red rice, just to name a few. Her love of cooking led her to write her first cookbook, Pearl and Verna Christian Cookbook in 2021. She intentionally included her mother's name in the title to honor her beloved role model and connoisseur of culinary arts. Moreover, all who knew Verna knew that she loved God, her family, and cooking; and those who spent any time with her were bound to hear about all three!

Reverend Dr. Verna Coburn was called to preach the Gospel in May 1980. She became a licensed minister at Solid Rock First Born Church of the Living God in May 1983. She received her theology degree in Biblical Studies from Tabernacle Bible Institute in May 1986 and Leadership Training School of Ministry in 1995. Through continued studies, Dr. Coburn received both her Master's Degree and subsequently earned the Doctorate Degree in Philosophical Theology in June 2013.

Dr. Coburn was passionate about teaching which began during her tenure at Tabernacle Bible Institute in New York under the leadership of the late Rev. Dr. Daisy Garvin but was later a faithful member of the Greater Revival Time House of Prayer. In 1996, Deacon and Rev. Coburn moved to Pennsylvania and were led by God to join the Reaching Out for Jesus Christen Center in Brodheadsville, PA., under the leadership of Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Pearman, where she labored until she transitioned to be with the Lord. In September 2007, Dr. Coburn and her husband Jimmy established Rescue Mission Outreach Ministries under the stewardship of Rev. Dr. Kenneth L. Pearman. Dr. Coburn was a servant of God who was, without question, sold out for Jesus and a prayer warrior extraordinaire. She purposed to win souls for Christ and to preach the gospel in and out of season.

On September 25, 2021, surrounded by her husband and children, the Lord called Verna to be with him in Paradise, where there is no sickness or pain. In addition to her parents, Verna's sister (Linda Monroe), brother (Michael Ladson), sister-in-law (Grace Lawrence), and two nieces (Terri Lawrence, and TaNile Woodberry) preceded her in transitioning to Glory.

Left to cherish her astounding memory are her husband: Jimmy Coburn of Easton, PA; daughters: Shawan Fox of Charlotte, NC; Letta A Smith (Reggie Smith) of Easton, PA; sons: Musa Abdallah of NJ; Aawahun Abdallah of Charlotte, NC; Umar Abdallah of Orlando, Florida; brother: Alonzo E. Lawrence of Bronx, NY; sister: Patricia M. Monroe of Bronx, NY; grandchildren: Shannon Robinson of Queens, NY; Christopher Smith of Easton, PA; Brandon Smith of Brooklyn, NY; Tyronn Brewington of Easton, PA; Tyler Brewington of Easton, PA; Makii Smith of Charlotte, NC; Micah Smith of Easton, PA; Amir Zion Smith of Easton, PA; aunts: Louise Smalls of Charleston, SC; nieces: Tracey M. Lawrence; nephews: Alonzo E Lawrence, Jr. (Frances Lawrence) of Norfolk, VA; Sean Lawrence of Los Angeles, CA; Tajiri Woodberry of New York, NY; three grand nieces, two grand nephews, one great grandchild; three great grand nephews, five great grandnieces; a host of relatives, friends and her "special sister friend" Stephaine Arrington.



*Order of Worship*  
*For*  
*Rev. Dr. Verna L. Coburn*

Musical Interlude and Viewing

Processional .....	Family and Clergy
Call to Worship .....	
Scripture Reading .....	
Old Testament: Ecclesiastes 3:1-8 .....	Elder Emily McIlwain
New Testament: Matthew 11:29-30 .....	Minister Tracey Jordan
Worship in Song .....	ROFJCC Praise & Worship Ministry
Prayer of Consolation .....	Deacon Matthew Simmons
Poetic Tribute .....	Sis. Viola Warren
Worship in Song .....	ROFJCC Praise & Worship Ministry
Reflective Moments of Celebration .....	Reaching Out for Jesus Christian Center
Greeters' Ministry.....	Sis. Betty Carter
Deacons/Men of Valor .....	Deacon Tommy Flood
Communion Board .....	Sis. Sarah Smalls
Evangelists' Board .....	Elder Emily McIlwaine
Reflective Moments of Celebration .....	Family
Minister Tracey Jordan ....	Deacon Jimmy Coburn .... Shawan Fox .... Minister Letta Smith
Cards/Acknowledgments/Celebration of Life .....	Dr. Stephaine Arrington
Liturgical Expression of Worship .....	
Minister Letta Smith .....	Jennifer Bacourt ..... Rebecca Savage
Eulogy .....	Bishop Kenneth L. Pearman
<b>Reaching Out for Jesus Christian Center</b> Brodheadsville, Pa. 18322	
Worship in Song .....	Elder Natasha Pile
Committal & Final Viewing .....	Bishop Kenneth L. Pearman

\*\*\*\*\* **Private Interment** \*\*\*\*\*

**Repast immediately following service in the church dining hall on the lower level**

# *The Master Called*

*I'm sorry I had to leave you.  
My loved ones, oh so dear.  
But you see, the Master called me,  
His voice was very clear!  
I had made my reservation;  
a heaven bound ticket for one.  
And I knew that He would call me  
when He felt my work was done.  
I know that your hearts are heavy  
because I have gone away.  
But when the Master called me,  
I knew that I could not stay.  
Yes, I'm sorry I had to leave you;  
My loved ones, oh so dear.  
But you see, the Master called me.  
And now I'm resting here.  
Yes, I've crossed on over to glory  
and to you all I can say:  
Just stay in the hands of Jesus  
and we'll meet again someday.*

## *Acknowledgment*

Rev. Dr. Verna L. Coburn's family wishes to express heartfelt appreciation and sincere thanks for the kind words, support, and prayers offered during this time of bereavement. These varied tokens of love have brought immense comfort for which you will be reverently remembered.

**Immeasurable thanks and appreciation  
for professional services rendered by**

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