

*Home Going Celebration for
Dr. Olisha Jean McKenzie*

Sunrise

September 14, 1960



Sunset

June 7, 2015



Tuesday, June 16, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

NEW CREECH TEMPLE UNITED HOLY CHURCH OF AMERICA, INC.

219-225 Hamilton Avenue • Paterson, New Jersey

Elder Dr. Moses L. McKenzie, Sr., Officiating

Reflections of Life

Dr. Olisha "Jean" McKenzie, daughter of the Late John Henry "Bud" McKenzie and Adaree McKenzie, was born on September 14, 1960, in Florence County, South Carolina. Dr. O and her family moved to Paterson, New Jersey, soon after her birth. Dr. O grew up in Paterson and was educated through the Paterson Public School system where she was a drum majorette and the captain of the majorettes during her high school years. She graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in 1978.

Dr. O (as she was lovingly called throughout the UHCA, Inc.) was a lifelong member of the UHCA (United Holy Church of America, Inc.) and was a faithful and devoted member of her home church, Creech Temple UHCA in Paterson, NJ under the leadership of the late Dr. James C. Creech and New Creech Temple's current pastor, Dr. Moses Lee McKenzie, Sr. She accepted Christ as her personal Savior at an early age and worked faithfully in the UHCA on the local, sub-district and district levels. She furthered her education by receiving her Bachelor's degree in Religious Education from Manhattan Bible Institute, her Master's degree in Theology from United Christian College and Bible Institute of the UHCA, Inc., and her Ph.D. in Sacred Theology from Alpha Bible Institute of Nutley, New Jersey. She earned these degrees alongside her Special Uncle and Pastor, Dr. Moses L. McKenzie Sr. He served as one of her confidants and friends while they encouraged one another to keep pressing forward as they continued their education. Through the years, Dr. O held many positions in the UHCA, in her local church, on the sub-district level and on the district level. Among them she served as Assistant Financial Secretary, Praise and Worship Leader, Graphic Designer for church advertisements and programs; she served as the Executive Assistant to the Board of District Elders of the Northern-New Jersey Sub-District UHCA, Inc. and was the Administration's Corresponding Secretary for 5 years. She served on the District Level with the Memorial Service Committee of the Greater Northern District UHCA, Inc. Dr. Olisha Jean McKenzie also served as the Dean of Students and as an Instructor at the New Creech Temple extension of The United Christian College and Bible Institute of the UHCA, Inc.

"Jean", as she was lovingly called by her family, lived an exemplary life. She was an encourager to family, friends, her students and anyone she came into contact with to get to know the Lord and to accept HIM as their personal Savior. She would always encourage everyone to "Study to Show Themselves Approved unto God". She was gentle, soft spoken, shy, and a gracious woman of God. She rendered her initial sermon at New Creech Temple on November 23, 2014, elevating her, in God, to serve as Minister Dr. Olisha Jean McKenzie. She officially ministered for the first time on a sub-district level (North NJ Sub-District of the UHCA) during the Holy week services on Good Friday April 3, 2015.

Professionally, Jean was employed by Prudential, Passaic County Community College, and William Paterson University. She most recently worked at the College of Nursing at Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, where she worked faithfully for nearly 30 years. More notably, she served as Chief Executive Officer, SecServe Enterprises, her own company, where she utilized her graphic design skills to the fullest.

Jean was a perfectionist and believed in doing everything with decency and order. Her gifts and talents were numerous. To many, Jean was always a DIVA, in the best sense of the word. She was also a seamstress, a graphic designer, interior designer, and singer who sung every song just like the artist who recorded it. She often led songs with the Gospel Crusaders Choir of New Creech Temple and the Praise and Worship Team where her gift would lead many into worship.

Jean was a family woman who loved spending time with her son, Isaiah, whom she loved dearly, and her baby sister, Shewanda. Family gatherings were always special to her and she enjoyed the company and laughter that was shared with her loving mother, Adaree, her aunts, uncles, cousins and special friends. In her free time, Jean could be found studying The Word as she read her Bible, or reading some of her other favorite books -The Power of a Praying Wife, The Power of a Praying Woman or Martha Stewart's Diet Detox. Some of her favorite shows could be found on HGTV or the Hallmark Channel where she could watch episodes of one her favorite shows, "I Love Lucy."

Jean was preceded in death by her daughter, Arielle Brinson; her father, John Henry "Bud" McKenzie; her maternal grandparents, James and Pearl Williams; her paternal grandparents, Leroy and Cora McKenzie; her aunts, Hattie Zimmerman, Reedell Lewis, Teletha Horne and Beronzy McKenzie; her uncles, James Williams, Jr., Willie Williams, and David McKenzie; her niece, Imani D. Poindexter; and her godson, Daeshawn Bryant.

Jean answered God's call home on Sunday, June 7, 2015, in Paterson.

Dr. O leaves to cherish her memory her son, Isaiah Brinson; her mother, Adaree McKenzie; her sister, Shewanda McKenzie; her brother, Joe L. Williams; one niece, Tyniece Williams; two nephews, Tyray Williams and D'Marcus Poindexter; godchildren Davel McKenzie, Tyshara Gross and Shanasia Freeman; her aunts, uncles and a host of cousins, friends, her co-workers from Rutgers University, her New Creech Temple UHCA Church Family, and devoted friends, Beverly Williams, Karen Hanna, Elder MaryLee Mack and Allison Creary - all whom she loved dearly.

Dr. Olisha Jean McKenzie will truly be missed. There are some things, though, she would want everyone to know that can be found in some of her favorite scriptures: I Corinthians 2:9 - But as it is written, Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him. And Galatians 2:20 - I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the Son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me.

Olisha Jean fought the Good Fight, she kept the Faith, she Won and is now resting with our Father in Heaven.

Order of Celebration

Prelude.....Bro. Derek Cinsote
Processional.....Clergy
Presiding.....District Elder Bobbie Smith
Invocation.....Pastor Linda Hindsman
Scripture Readings
Old Testament.....Min. Irving Jacobs
New Testament.....Elder Mary Lee Mack
Prayer of Comfort.....Elder James Kelley
Musical Selection.....Choir

Tributes by New Creech Temple UHCA Church Family

Missionary Dept.....Min. Viola Williams
New Creech Temple Family....Deacon Alvin McElveen
United Christian College.....Pastor Essie Branch
Bible College Student.....Pastor Donna Warren
Gospel Crusaders Choir President.....Sis. Karen Miller
UHCA North-NJ Sub-District....Elder Emanuel Bizzell

Cards, Acknowledgements and Reflections of Life.....Elder Lauren Nance
Musical Selection.....Choir

Tributes by Family and Friends

- Please keep your Tribute to Two Minutes -

Presentation.....Sis. Shewanda McKenzie
Musical Selection.....Pastor Linda Stancil
Words of Comfort.....Rev. Dr. Moses L. McKenzie, Sr.
Recessional.....Clergy

Entombment

Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.
Fairlawn Memorial Cemetery
22-21 Maple Avenue | Fairlawn, New Jersey

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 say
Just stay in the hands of Jesus
And we'll meet again someday.*

-Author unknown

Acknowledgements

*The family of **Dr. Olisha J. McKenzie** with deepest gratitude, acknowledge all of the cards, prayers, calls and many acts of kindness extended to them during this time of bereavement. May God continue to bless you.*

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