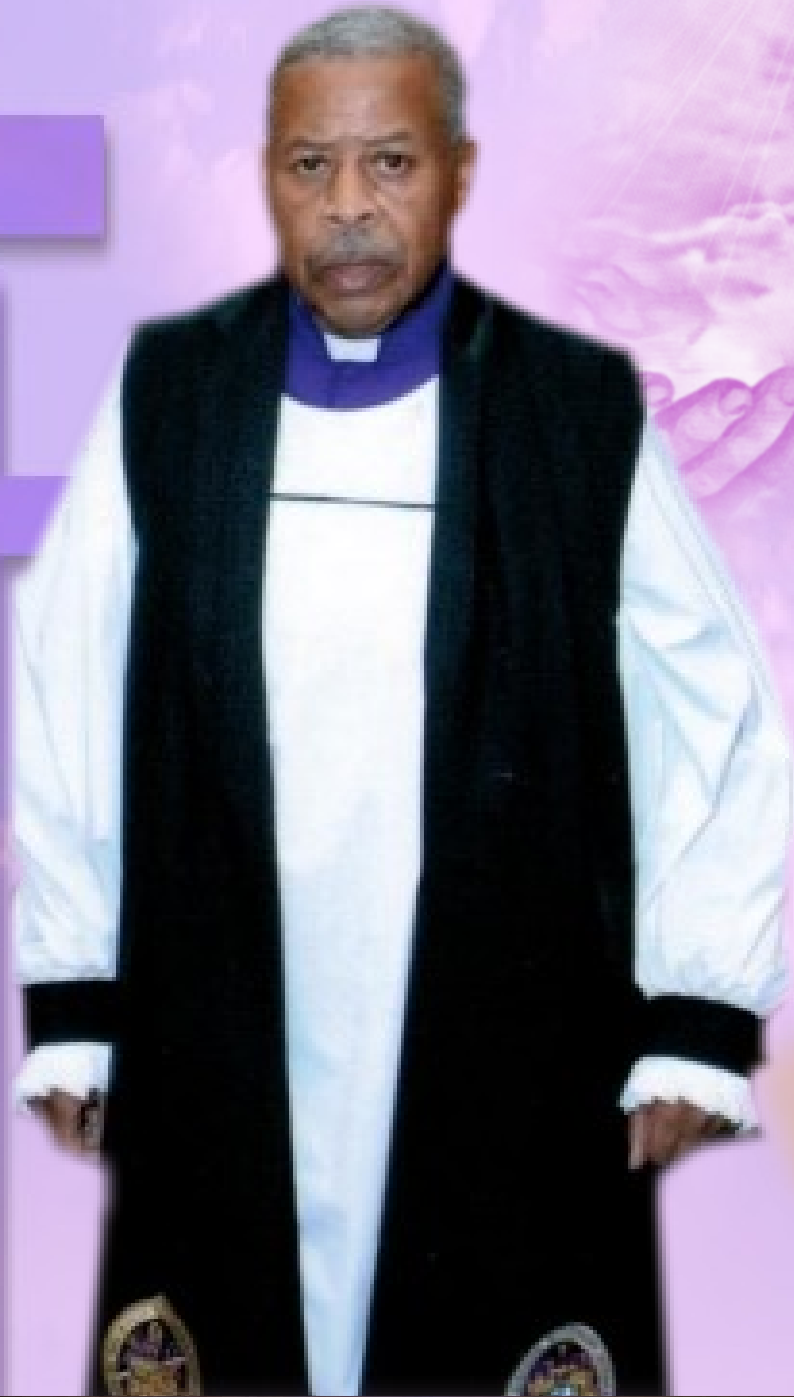




# *Homegoing Celebration*



*Thee We Mourn*



*The Very Reverend Richard Frederick Christmas*

**Chairman of Executive Advisory Board  
Covenant Kingdom Ministries International**



**The National Celebration of Life  
Of**

*The Very Reverend Richard Frederick Christmas*

**Chairman of Executive Advisory Board  
Covenant Kingdom Ministries International**

**Sunrise**                      **Sunset**  
November 4, 1943      February 7, 2016

*Friday, the Twelfth Day of February  
Two Thousand, Sixteen Anno Domini*

*Eleven O'clock Ante Meridiem*



Bethel Church of Love & Praise  
Covenant Kingdom Ministries International Headquarters  
55 Lawrence Street  
Bloomfield, New Jersey 07003

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*Chief Officiant*  
**The Most Reverend Charles W. Harris, Jr.**  
Presiding Bishop

**The Right Reverend Calvin N. Singleton, Sr.**  
Assistant Presiding Bishop  
Co-Officiant

## *Reflections - The Life of A Servant*

**Overseer Richard Frederick Christmas**, was born in the home of his parents the late Elder Richard J. Christmas and Missionary Nettie H. Christmas on November 4, 1943, in the City of Montclair, New Jersey.

Together with his only sibling Rev. Ileathern Christmas McLeod, Overseer Richard Christmas, was educated in the Montclair, New Jersey school system.

He later received an Associate Degree from Drake College of Business in Newark, New Jersey. A man endowed with a strong work ethic, at the age of nine, delivered groceries for Maple Deli, Inc. At the age of twenty he purchased that same business. Always a champion for youth, he established the Maple Deli Minority Scholarship for graduating Montclair High School students.

His professional career also included employment with New Jersey transit and subsequently was a dedicated worker at the Essex County Prosecutor's Office until his retirement in October 2011.

Overseer Richard Frederick Christmas, received his early religious training at Trinity Temple Church of God In Christ, under the leadership of his god-father the late Bishop Frederick Douglas Washington, the late Elder Kelmo C. Porter, Jr. and ultimately, Bishop Norman L. Prescott.

A man full of wisdom and knowledge, it was predestined that during a church service his eyes and heart was drawn to the lovely, beautiful and charming, Lady Diana Mullings. As ordained, this union was sanctioned in holy matrimony on April 23, 1988. He has two sons, Wesley Keith Mullings and Dana C. Mullings Christmas.

A warrior for Christ, he served as a Youth Minister at Trinity Temple Church of God In Christ. Answering a higher call to ministry, he became an ordained Elder through the Church of God In Christ, World Wide under the auspices of the late Bishop Chandler David Owens. He also served at Cotton Temple Church of God In Christ, under the Leadership of the late Bishop Charles H. Cotton. He worked faithfully as the Elder over the Youth Church and President of the Men's Department. With esteemed dedication, he served as Finance Officer for the Garden State Jurisdiction of New Jersey, also in the same capacity for the Third Jurisdiction of New Jersey; Vice President of the Evangelism Department under Bishop Norman L. Prescott.

He was also a recipient of Theological Studies through Evangelical Bible Institute, located in Newark, New Jersey under the leadership of Dr. Nathaniel L. Screven.

Endowed and eager to fulfill the work of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, he accepted the call and founded Whosoever Will Church of God In Christ, February 8, 1998, within the City of Plainfield, New Jersey. His wife worked faithfully by his side and together through Christ, they touched the hearts of many.

With commitment and dedication during August 2007, he pledged his utmost support to the vision of Covenant Kingdom Ministries International under the auspices of Bishop Charles W. Harris, Jr., Prelate and Bishop Calvin N. Singleton, Sr., Assistant Prelate. He served as District Superintendent and Chairman of the Executive Board and by divine ordinance was elevated to most high office of Overseer on June 28th, 2015.

Overseer Richard Frederick Christmas, walked and served hand in hand by the side of Bishop Charles W. Harris, Jr. His love and dedication for both his spiritual leader and Covenant Kingdom Ministries International was extraordinary and highly exceptional.

He traveled to cities within New Jersey and other states as designated. He was a man of highest integrity, faithful, dependable and a humble Shepherd. His outstanding service to Covenant Kingdom Ministries International and his local church family, "Whosoever Will Church of C.K.M.I." shall remain memorable in our hearts.

A once strong voice in the kingdom is silent amongst us. A profound Preacher and Teacher of God's Holy Word, yet, the praises of "Yes Lord", "Yes Lord", "Yes lord", revolves in the presence of our King!

Overseer Richard Frederick Christmas, his name shall be edged in the history and future of Covenant Kingdom Ministries International. His commitment and servanthood to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and to men and woman of God has indeed rewarded him a crown of life....

He leaves to cherish his memory, His devoted and loving wife, Diana L. Christmas, (2) sons Wesley Keith Mullings(Aisha) and Dana Carvel Mullings Christmas; (3) grand-children: Isaiah Keishon Mullings, Corinne Erin Brielle Mullings and Emanuel James Thorpe a loving sister, Rev. Ileathern Christmas McLeod, an endearing sister-in-law Marsha L Hall, (3) brothers-in-law Roland Dixon, Henry Douglas Suber, and Deacon Vernon M. Franklin (Vickie), Nieces: Marisa Dudley(Darius); Az-Zukihruf Moore (Alton); Lisa Bethune (Kimball); Karien Williams (Ken); Asia Gibson (Chevas); Shanell McRoy (Lovett); Nickie Leathers; Leniqua Richardson (CJ); Nephews: Clarence D. McLeod(Caryn), Joel J. McLeod (Regina) Dwayne E. McLeod (Tracy); Tarnell Nettingham; Shaurmon Nettingham; (35) great-nieces and nephews and a host of relatives and friends. : two God-sons Jordan Bush, Eddie Williams III, and a devoted and loving church family, Whosoever Will Church of

*The Order of Celebration*

**+Where indicated, please stand.**

**ORGAN PRELUDE**

**+THE PROCESSIONAL**

The Ecumenical and Denominational Leaders  
The National Officers  
Senior Pastors  
The General Officers  
~~~~~

The Adjutant General  
The Assistant Presiding Bishop  
The Presiding Bishop  
~~~~~  
The Christmas Family



**THE SEALING OF THE BIER**

**+THE INVOCATION.....The Reverend Fondrea L. Lewis**  
CKMI

**+THE HYMN OF COMFORT .....The Reverend Jerry C. Williams**  
CKMI

**OLD TESTAMENT READING .....Psalm 121 .....The Reverend McCarly Thompson**  
CKMI

**NEW TESTAMENT READING..... John 14:1-6 .....The Reverend David L. Wyche, Sr.**  
CKMI

**+THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH .....The Reverend Darryl K. Walton**  
CKMI

**MUSIC MINISTRY..... CKMI Choir**

**THE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF CIVIC AND RELIGIOUS LEADERS .....Sis. Jeziel Pereira**

**MINISTRY OF CONSOLATION**

**Family Tribute:** The Reverend Ileathern Christmas McLeod

**Family Tribute:** Ms. Marisa McLeod

**Church Family:** Evangelist Tanya Faines Bush  
Whosoever Will, CKMI

**Friend:** Superintendent E. Bernard Alexander  
First Church COGIC – New York

**Former Bishop:** Bishop Norman L. Prescott  
Third Jurisdiction COGIC – New Jersey



**THE NATIONAL TRIBUTES**

**The Department of Men .....The Reverend Michael L. Williams**  
President

**The Department of Women .....The Reverend Janet Harris**  
President

**Auxiliaries Advancing the Kingdom .....Minister Karen Reavis**  
President

**The Executive Advisory Board .....The Reverend John C. Arnold**  
Member

**THE SELECTION.....CKMI Choir**

**THE NATIONAL RESOLUTION..... The Very Reverend Calvin N. Singleton, Jr.**  
General Secretary

**REFLECTIONS ~ LIFE OF A SERVANT**

**THE INTRODUCTION OF THE EULOGIST.....The Right Reverend Calvin N. Singleton, Sr.**  
Assistant Presiding Bishop

**THE SERMONIC SELECTION.....CKMI Choir**

**THE EULOGY.....The Most Reverend Charles W. Harris, Jr.**  
Presiding Bishop

**THE PRAYER OF COMFORT.....The Reverend Tracy Gittens**  
CKMI

**+THE RECESSIONAL**

## *The Affirmation Of Our Faith*

(+Where Indicated, Please Stand)

**+The Leader:**                   **We affirm our faith in the Bible.**

**+The Congregation:**       We believe the Bible to be the inspired and only infallible written word of God.

**+The Leader:**                   **We affirm our faith in God.**

**+The Congregation:**       We believe that there is one God eternally existent in three persons, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

**+The Leader:**                   **We affirm our faith in the Blessed Hope.**

**+The Congregation:**       We believe in the Blessed Hope, which is the rapture of the Church of God, which in Christ, at His return.

**+The Leader:**                   **We affirm our Faith in Repentance and Salvation.**

**+The Congregation:**       We believe that the only means of being cleansed from sin is through repentance and faith in the precious blood of Jesus Christ. We believe that regeneration by the Holy Ghost is absolutely essential for personal Salvation.

**+The Leader:**                   **We affirm our faith in Jesus Christ.**

**+The Congregation:**       We believe that the redemptive work of Christ on the cross provides healing for the human body in answer to to believing prayer.

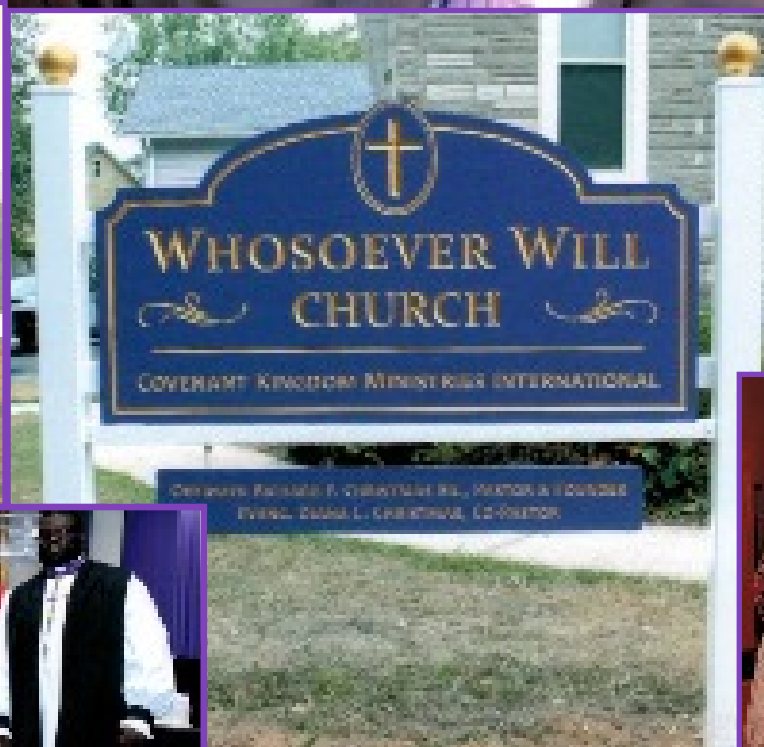
**+The Leader:**                   **We affirm our faith in the Holy Ghost.**

**+The Congregation:**       We believe that the baptism in the Holy Ghost, according to Acts 2:4, is given to believers who ask for it.

**+The Leader:**                   **We affirm our faith in sanctification.**

**+The Congregation:**       We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit, by whose indwelling, the Christian is enabled to live a holy and separated life in this present world. *Amen*





## Honorary Pallbearers

CKMI Pastors

## Active Pallbearers

The National Adjutancy

## Flower Bearers

The National Adjutancy Sisters

*The Very Reverend Richard Frederick Christmas*

### **Favorite Scripture:**

#### **Psalm 121:1-8**

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

### *Acknowledgement*

*During this time of bereavement, The Family of **The Very Reverend Richard F. Christmas** wishes to acknowledge, with deep appreciation, the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers and other expressions of kindness. May God smile upon you and bless you richly for the concerns expressed in thought and in deed.*



#### **Sconiers Funeral Service**

736 Clinton Avenue • Newark NJ 07108

(973) 375-2400

[www.honoryou.com](http://www.honoryou.com)