

Home Going Service for

Rev. Miriam Eliza Pitter-Burton

September 2, 1933 - July 18, 2017

“God is well able”



Friday, August 4, 2017
Viewing: 4:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
Service: 6:30 p.m.

United Church of God
4444 White Plains Road • Bronx, NY 10470
Rev. Margaret Forrester, Officiating

Order of Service

Processional & Invocation Clergy & Family
Congregational Hymn “When We all Get To Heaven”
Opening Prayer Rev. Vixton Dixon
1st Scripture Reading Psalm 90:1-12
Bro. Jeffrey Lewis (UCOG)
Musical Selection United Church of God Men’s Choir
2nd Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 15: 51-58
Roshon Burton (grandson)
Memories of the past Sis. Claudette Clarke (Spiritual daughter)
Tribute on behalf of the family Mrs. Raquel Burton (daughter-in-law)
Tribute Sis Elmay Thompson (St. Johns Primary School)
Musical Selection Rev. Milroy Grant

Tributes

Bishop Clifford Thompson (District Overseer)
Sis. Cynthia Walters
Rev. Rupert Clarke (Yonkers Church of God)

Musical Selection Yonkers Central Church of God Choir

Tributes

Sis. Shirley Foreman (Point Hill Church)
Bro. Clifford Hibbert (Pastor's Council)
Brown Family

Obituary Rev. Marcia Pennicott (Elim Church of God)
Praise Dance Demisha Forrester (Granddaughter)
Musical Selection United COG General Choir
Eulogy Bishop Andrew Binda (Former State Overseer))
Prayer for the Family Bishop Clive McBean (Praise Temple COG)
Recessional

Repast

*Repast follows at
Somerset Banquet Hall
4363 Bronx Blvd, Bronx, NY*

Saturday, August 5, 2017
Please join us for Morning Devotion and Final Viewing
at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary, the
final disposition will follow afterwards

Entombment

*Woodlawn Cemetery
Bronx, New York*

Repast

*Following the final disposition, the family invites you to join them
for repast and fellowship in the Church's Hall*

Obituary

Rev. Miriam Pitter-Burton was born on September 2, 1933 to parents Cyril and Mabel Pitter. She was the eldest daughter of five children born to her parents. She attended the Ebenezer All Age School. Due to her financial situation, she was unable to attend high school but became a teacher at a basic school in the community. Miriam touched the lives of many young children in her community. She further pursued her passion for teaching by passing all her General Certificate of Education (GCE) Level. She attended the Mico Teacher's College and obtained her degree in Education. She taught in various schools such as Point Hill, Horizon Park, and spent many years as a teacher at St. John's Primary School. She also attended Mercy College where she obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree in Psychology and Education.

During her teenage years, the New Testament Church of God was established in Swabys Hope, Manchester. The Church's manner of worship was very unusual for the community of Swabys Hope. Their hand clapping, loud singing, tongue speaking way of worship, was not acceptable by her father and the community. Miriam visited the church on numerous occasions and became an alter pest. Her two sisters Rachel and Charlotte were members of the church already. One day while they went to fasting, Miriam and her younger sister Lucy decided to eat all the pork. The same night Miriam experienced a severe food poisoning that almost led to her death. While there on her dying bed the Lord spoke to her that this is her final night. She asked Lucy to assist her to Deacon Ellis's home where she surrendered her life to God. Her father did not support the idea of her attending this church, but Miriam loved it and could not be dissuaded.

Miriam sought the Lord in her secret closet asking him to touch her in an unique way so that others could see that she had truly repented. Sis White, the first lady for the church, saw something special in her and asked her to lead the devotion in the Young People's Endeavor service. While singing the devotional song, a powerful anointing came over her and she was sweetly filled with the Holy Ghost.

At the age of 20, God called her to enter the ministry. She started her ministerial journey at the Bethel Bible College. She was one of the first ladies to enter the college. She was assigned to cook for the men, and also had the honor of washing and ironing the clothes of great Ministers such as the Rev. Milroy Grant and many others. She became well known around campus as Evangelist Pitter aka "Pit Pit". She then began her Evangelistic Ministry by going all over the Island of Jamaica preaching the Gospel of Jesus Christ. During her ministry, she prayed for many and through her, souls were won for Christ and God performed healing and deliverance.

On January 15, 1966 Evangelist Pitter and Reginald Burton were married. This union subsequently became a mighty force that God used over the Island of Jamaica. The Lord

extended their family by blessing them with three beautiful children, Margaret and twins Rose and Roger. Rev. Burton along with her husband and children migrated to the United States on March 4, 1980. The family attended the Yonkers Central Church of God where Rev. Walters and the members of the church received them with a warm welcome. She served as a Sunday School teacher, choir member and ministered the word of God on several occasions. God's blueprint for Rev. Burton's life was bigger than her just being a member of a local church. After serving for six years and being mentored by Rev. Joel Walters, God called her to start a church. On September 6, 1986 with the blessing of Rev. Joel Walters, Rev. Burton and her eldest daughter Rev. Margaret Forrester (then Margaret Burton) decided to follow the calling of God on their lives and began searching for a place to start the ministry. The first place of worship was 205 West 242 Street, Bronx, NY. There they gave the ministry the name "Broadway Church of God". As the church grew Rev. Miriam Burton and her congregation moved to several locations. A unanimous decision was made for a final move for "The United Church of God" located at 4444 White Plains Road.

In December 2006, Rev. Burton received the first of what would be two strokes. The stroke damaged her ability to speak fluently. This did not stop her, because every time she stood in the pulpit to preach she was able to declare to the church "GOD IS WELL ABLE." On August 7, 2007 she was struck with yet another stroke that partially paralyzed her on the right side. In May of 2013 and March of 2015 Rev. Miriam Burton was diagnosed with Breast Cancer. On June 10, 2017 she suffered a third stroke which affected her left side.

Even though she could no longer preach, Rev. Miriam Burton was able to bask in the fruits of her labor from the first call of God to this very moment. She was a mother, sister, grandmother, friend, teacher, mentor, Evangelist and most of all a Pastor to everyone. Rev. Miriam Burton's legacy lives on in her daughter Rev. Margaret Burton-Forrester, who is now the Senior Pastor of the United Church of God.

She was preceded in death by her husband Reginald Burton and brother Phillip Pitter. She leaves behind her three children, Roger Burton, Rosemarie Burton-Salmon (twins) and Margaret Burton-Forrester; her step-son Richard Burton, her daughter-in-law Raquel Burton, sons-in-law Desu Forrester and Omar Salmon; her grandchildren Shaun, Tiffany, Demisha, Desmar, Tishana, T'Keyah and Roshon; her sisters, Rachel Watson, Charlotte Pitter, Lucy White, Mary Harrison and Virginia Ellis; her nieces Christine, Rosemarie Fulton, Paulette, Sheryl, Sofia and nephews Neville, Phil, Connie, Michael, Franklin, Paul and many grandnieces and grandnephews.

Rev. Miriam Pitter-Burton has completed her task on earth. She has fought a good fight and finished her course. There will be many stars on her crown due to the souls that have been won for Christ. It is not how she started, but how she finished her course with joy and distinction. A life well lived with purpose. She will be sorely missed by us all but heaven is rejoicing because she has now made it home.

When We All Get To Heaven

Sing the wondrous love of Jesus,
Sing His mercy and His grace.
In the mansions bright and blessed
He'll prepare for us a place.

Refrain

*When we all get to Heaven,
What a day of rejoicing that will be!
When we all see Jesus,
We'll sing and shout the victory!*

While we walk the pilgrim pathway,
Clouds will overspread the sky;
But when traveling days are over,
Not a shadow, not a sigh.

Refrain

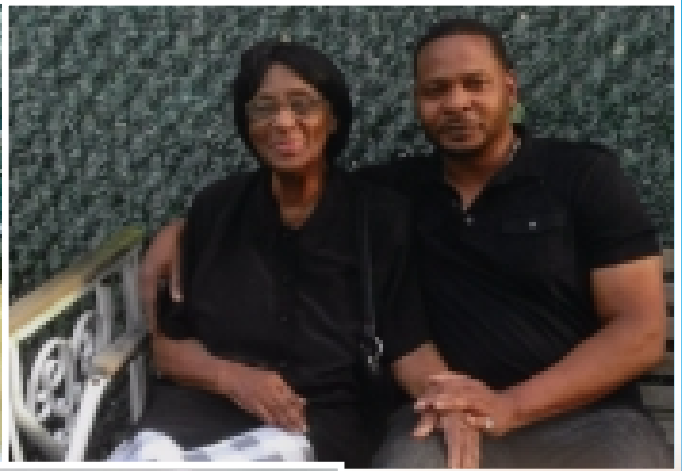
Let us then be true and faithful,
Trusting, serving every day;
Just one glimpse of Him in glory
Will the toils of life repay.

Refrain

Onward to the prize before us!
Soon His beauty we'll behold;
Soon the pearly gates will open;
We shall tread the streets of gold.

Refrain





Pallbearers

Roger Burton (son)

Desmar Forrester (grandson)

Desu Forrester (son-in-law)

Shaun Salmon (grandson)

Neville Lewis (nephew)

Roshon Burton (grandson)

Linford Salmon (son-in-law)

Acknowledgement

The family of Rev. Miriam Eliza Pitter-Burton acknowledges with great appreciation all acts of kindness, sympathy and love extended to us during this time of bereavement.



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