

CELEBRATING
THE *Life* AND LEGACY OF

Overseer
SANDRA
Barnes

Alpha
08-14-1948

Omega
01-18-2021

Celebration Service

Friday January 29, 2021 | 10:00am

Bethlehem Judah Christian Fellowship
83 Galloping Hill Rd. Elizabeth, NJ 07208

Bishop Anthony W. Gilyard, Pastor

Bishop Robert T. Farrell, Presiding | Pastor Brian Randolph, Eulogist



Sandra C. Barnes

Sandra C. Barnes was born August 14, 1948 to Alonzo and Louise Clemmons in Englewood, NJ. Her childhood years were split between New Jersey and South Carolina, Sandra's second home with her aunt, Willie Mae Bonaparte. Her general education came through the Englewood school system, but she graduated from Mayo High School in Darlington, SC, in 1966. It was there that her beauty, smile and intelligence shined through and she was crowned homecoming queen. She went on to receive a Bachelor of Arts in English at Virginia State University, a Masters in Education from Rutgers University and pledged Alpha Kappa Alpha in the 80s, but she didn't stop there. Her scholarly endeavors later led her to attend Hawthorne Bible School.

35 years of service was dedicated to the Newark, NJ Public School system. Sandra started as a basic skills teacher and later coordinated the Even Start program across multiple schools in the city. In the years leading up to her retirement, she worked in early childhood education at the Newark Board of Education. She loved what she did and did what she loved.

Her natural career shared most of its years with her spiritual journey as a pastor alongside her loving husband, Bishop David Barnes. She and David met in insurance school and later married on July 11, 1987. The pair went on to enjoy 33 years of holy matrimony. Their marriage was met with love and admiration from all who came into contact with them, especially after any of the hundreds of public serenades she received from her husband! In 1995, she boldly followed her husband in ministry as he started New Life Church in East Orange, NJ. They pastored together for 25 years.

Sandra had a powerful women's ministry and was known for honoring women of God at her Annual Soul Food Luncheon. In 2017, she published her first book by women, for women. *Jesus Fixed My Life: Amazing Stories of Healing and Restoration* is a compilation of women's inspiring testimonies. Sandra's heart was always towards pastors wives and women in ministry.

On January 18, 2021, Sandra C. Barnes departed this life. She is preceded in death by her parents, Alonzo Clemmons and Louise Clemmons; brother, Darryl Clemmons; and husband, Bishop David Barnes. She leaves to cherish her memory her daughter, Aleshia Alston; two step-children, Shaka Barnes and Malaika Barnes; granddaughter Naomi Byrd; bonus grandchildren Shaka Barnes, Assata Barnes, Elisha Paul, Amina Paul, Jordan Paul, Shakur Barnes, Alonna Barnes and Daniel Thompson; two sisters, Verna "Crystal" Clemmons and Tamar Thomas; three nieces, Alondra Thomas, Candra Jones and Whitney Jett; and a host of god children, relatives, friends, the New Life Church family, and her oldest and dearest friend, JoAnn Evans.

Sandra was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, pastor, educator and friend. With her smile and open arms, she greeted everyone in her path. The love and compassion she carried in her heart shined through no matter where she was. At home, Sandra loved to cook for the holidays with her granddaughter Naomi and at New Life, she loved to sing praises unto her heavenly Father. She was strong and resilient, a true survivor of life's trials, all of which she turned into triumphs and inspiration. Sandra Althea Barnes was a beautifully multi-faceted woman of God who won't soon be forgotten.



Order of Service

Prelude
Processional

Presider Bishop Robert T. Farrell
Prayer of Comfort Apostle Marcus G. Barnes, Jr.

Old Testament Scripture Psalm 27 Deaconess Karen Charles
New Testament Scripture John 14:1-6 Sis. Jasmine Wimberly

Solo Pastor Lori Beasley

Tributes (Two minutes)
Friends in Ministry
Representative from Godchildren
Bishop David Barnes
Barnes Family Representative
Stepchildren
Grandchildren
Clemmons Family
Oldest and Dearest Friend Missionary JoAnn Evans
Daughter

Cards and Condolences Deaconess Karen Charles
Resolutions Associate Pastor Jenene Taylor
Reading of Obituary Sister LaToya Benders
Solo Associate Pastor Jenene Taylor
Eulogy Pastor Brian Randolph

Recessional

