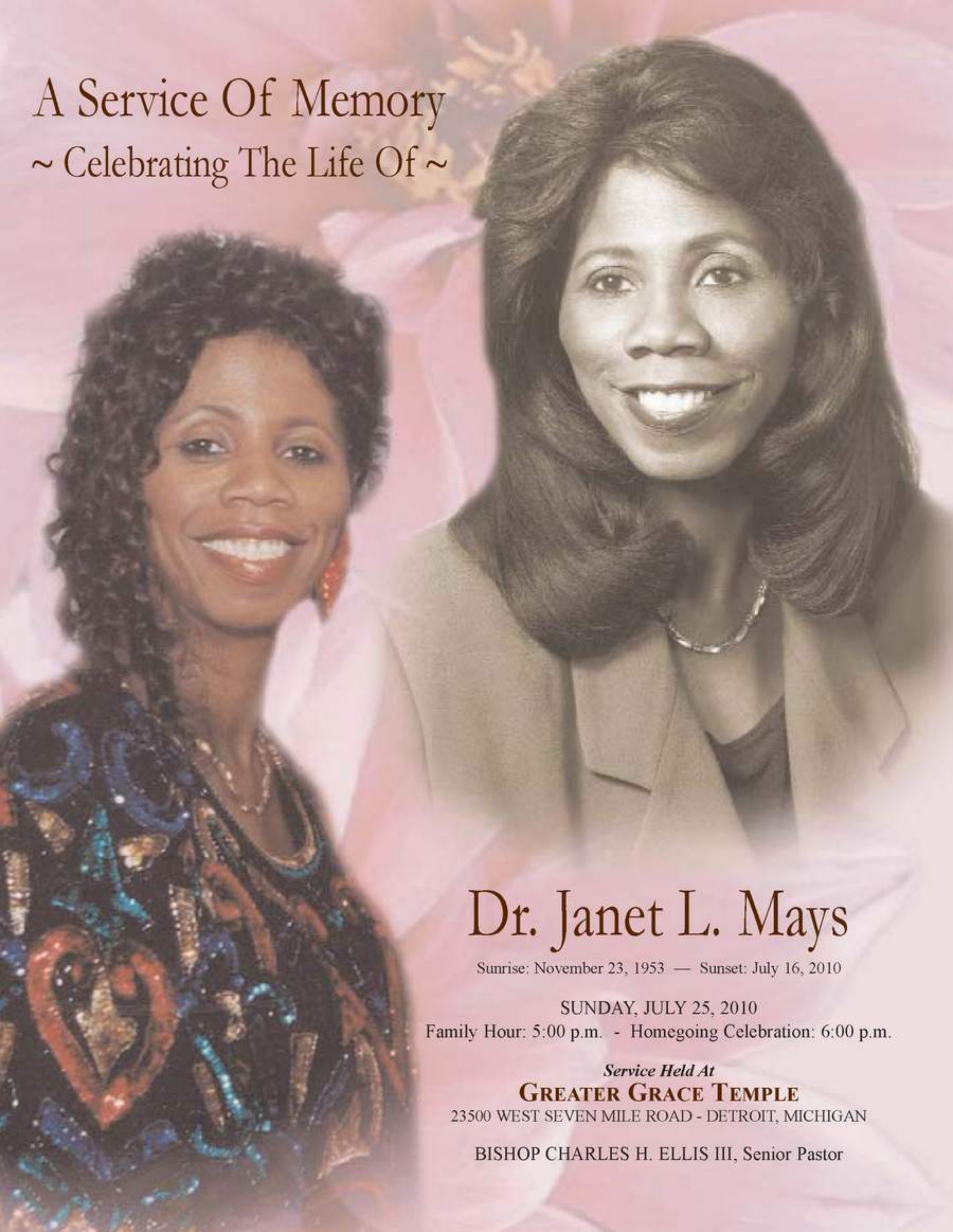
A Service Of Memory

~ Celebrating The Life Of ~



Dr. Janet L. Mays

Sunrise: November 23, 1953 — Sunset: July 16, 2010

SUNDAY, JULY 25, 2010

Family Hour: 5:00 p.m. - Homegoing Celebration: 6:00 p.m.

Service Held At

GREATER GRACE TEMPLE

23500 WEST SEVEN MILE ROAD - DETROIT, MICHIGAN

BISHOP CHARLES H. ELLIS III, Senior Pastor

"A virtuous woman, who can find?
For her worth is far above rubies..."

Janet Lorraine Clack Mays, Ph.D, was the second eldest of six children born to the union of Albert Lee Clack and the late Elizabeth Gardner Clack, was born on November 23, 1953, in Hamtramck, Michigan at St. Francis Hospital. Raised in a Christian home, Janet accepted Jesus Christ and was baptized at New Jerusalem Baptist Church in Detroit, Michigan by Reverend Charles E. Glover at the age of 13 years, and became a member of the New Jerusalem Missionary Baptist Church Youth Choir.

Janet matriculated through the Highland Park School System and was an honor roll student from elementary through high school. She was a sports enthusiast who played basketball and hockey at Highland Park High School and was voted *"most valuable player"* and given the basketball nickname as "*Jump-n-Jack Clack*". She played the clarinet in the Marching Band and was a member of her high school yearbook committee. She was nominated "Who's Who in American High School Students".

She earned her first job (while still in junior high) working in the Mildred's Beauty Mark Shop in Highland Park. In this beauty shop she was given her first opportunity to model wigs, which led to more modeling opportunities throughout high school.

Janet graduated with honors from Highland Park High School in 1972, and received a basketball scholarship to Wayne State University. While at WSU, she worked at Willard Junior High School in Highland Park as a coach for the girl's basketball team. Throughout her college years, her modeling career blossomed and she was known as a top fashion model for March of Dimes. She won many modeling awards such as, "Miss March of Dimes", "Miss Downtown Detroit", and "Miss State Fair". She modeled for the Detroit Auto Show and throughout the Detroit Metropolitan Area.

Janet's love for education led her to graduate with a Bachelor of Arts in Physical Education and Recreational Therapy and a Master of Arts, *cum laude* from Wayne State University in Vocational Rehabilitation. Thereafter, she continued her education, receiving a Doctor of Philosophy *magna cum laude* from LaSalle University in Louisiana.

While in college, Janet met James C. Mays. During this time she was at Wayne State and he was a student at Western Michigan University. On Sunday, June 25, 1979, Janet and James were united in Holy Matrimony before family and friends at Greater Grace Temple, by the late Bishop David L. Ellis III. Their union was blessed with five beautiful children: James Caulton Jr., Della Marie, Elizabeth Ellen and twin girls, Abriona Rachel and Albertina Rebecca.

Janet was a member of Greater Grace Temple for more than 32 years, pastored now by Bishop Charles H. Ellis, who, along with his lovely wife, First Lady Crisette Ellis, whom she held in high esteem and honor. She was ordained and licensed and was a member of the Ministerial Staff, served on the Comforter's Ministry, Nurses' Guild, and the PWP (Powerful Women of Prayer) Women's Ministry. She graduated from Enon Bible College in Indiana with a degree in Evangelism. She also served on the intercontinental ministry as Director of Educational Support in Ghana, West Africa.

Her associated ministerial and professional activities included the following: March of Dimes, Black United Fund, Phi Delta Kappa, World Council of Christian Women Ministries, Female Association of Women (F.A.M.E.), Co-host of the Darlene and Sarah Radio Broadcast of 1440 AM, Wayne State University Alumnae, LaSalle University Alumnae, Detroit Medical Center Hospital's Church Services Ministry (closed circuit), NAACP and Detroit Federation of Teachers. She was also State Vice President of the World Council of Christian Women's Ministry of Michigan, Inter-Faith Cotillion of Women Pastors, The People Mover Street Crusaders, The Ark of the Covenant Television Ministries to the sick (at Sinai Grace Hospital), the United Negro College Fund and Black United Fund.

Dr. Mays was the Educational Director for the U.S. African Foundation. Her doctoral dissertation was prompted by her love for the people of Africa where she had the opportunity to visit Ghana, Cape Verde Islands, Senegal, Namibia, the Congo of the Republic (Zaire) and South Africa where she faithfully ministered. Janet and her husband, James, initiated a book drive with the Detroit community and the Detroit Public School System, which brought in over 200,000 books for distribution to the school libraries of South Africa. She was also invited to bring in a team of educators to train the school principals, teachers and students in the use of textbooks and teaching manuals.

Janet was an international speaker. She was blessed with a compassionate heart, not only for the souls of men, but also for those who were victimized by traumatic situations, highway or roadway accidents or other life-threatened conditions. God specifically chose Janet to be His angel on earth to pray and minister to His people.

Janet was employed with the Detroit Board of Education from 1981 until 2003 when she lost her eyesight. A woman of faith, Janet then assumed her preaching ministry as her full-time job. She would preach at conferences, revivals, retreats, seminars and anywhere God led her to speak. Janet preached and educated God's children until God called her home on Friday, July 16, 2010.

Janet will live forever in the hearts of those she loved: her loving and faithful husband of 31 years, James C. Mays; five beautiful and devoted children: her son, James C. Mays, Jr. and daughters: Della (Willie) Mays Prince, Elizabeth Mays, and her twins, Abriona and Albertina Mays; father, Albert Lee Clack; brother, Alvin Clack; four sisters: Dr. Elmorie (Nathaniel) Miller, Alma Harris, Jeanette (William) Chandler and Brenda (John) Davis; aunts, Dorothy (James) Henry of Skokie, Illinois and Mary Eliza Dangerfield of Nashville, Tennessee, mother-in-law, LaTrelle Powers-Mays; uncle, Archie (Verna Mae) Clack of Lavergne, Tennessee; special uncle and aunts: Marque and Mavis Chambliss of Jackson, Mississippi and Audrey Chambliss of Atlanta, Georgia; sisters-in-law: Phyllis Mays Rogers, Alice M. Mays and Celestia L. Mays, Esq; brother-in-law, Eugene Rogers; godchildren: Takiyah Turner, DeVissi Crockett and John Evans; special devoted friends: Fran Carter, Hazel Cox, Blanche Dodson, Mother Jackson, Diane Stiger, Colette Young, Patricia Clark, Velvet Mateen, Onesimo Kubany, Dr. Mona Reid, Idrander Moore, Laverne Green and Angela Crockett; and a host of nieces, nephews, cousins, other relatives and friends.

DAWG DAYS

The Order of Service

Celebrating The Life Of
Dr. Janet Lorraine Clack Mays

Organ Prelude .....

Processional .....

Choir Selection .....Greater Grace Temple

Prayer .....

Solo.....Kellie Evans

Reflections.....Presiding Bishop Clarence B. Haddon, Sr.
Prelate of Pentecostal
Outpour International
Fellowship Of Church, Inc.

Acknowledgment of Cards, Telegrams
and Condolences .....Akua Budu-Watkins

Resolutions.....Dr. Mona Y. Reide, Chair
International Missions Board of Directors

Obituary .....Colette Young

Selection .....Greater Grace Temple Choir

Remarks .....Family and Friends

(The family appreciates your loving and kind words spoken,
but please keep your expressions to Two Minutes Please!)

Solo.....Kellie Evans

Special Tribute.....The Mays Children

Eulogy .....Bishop Charles H. Ellis III
Senior Pastor, Greater Grace Temple

Recessional .....

Organ Postlude .....

"I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to me only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

-II Timothy 4:7-8

To The Glory of.. GOD

MICHIGAN

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"My Wife"

You are the mother of my children,
You are the wife of my youth,
You are the woman of my choosing,
Bathed in beauty, grace and truth.

You are the dawning of my morning,
You are the sunshine of my day,
Chasing away the clouds of darkness,
Spreading light around the way.

You are the completing of my body,
You are my encourager when I can't go on,
You are my comfort when I'm lonely,
You are the maker of my home.

You are the woman I choose to live with,
And love for the rest of my life,
The mother of my children,
My darling precious wife.

All My Love Always,
- James

"A Tribute To My Mother"

A mother is a special person
God put here on earth
To reproduce and bring forth life
To care for me from my birth,
She taught me, trained me, instructed me
She kept me healthy and strong
She encouraged me when I was right
And corrected me when I was wrong.
She was a cook, a doctor, a manager,
She made our home run smooth,
When her children were at war,
She was a peacemaker,
She made us keep our cool
Whether Superstar, Judge or President
We sometimes give credit to each other,
But we could never be what we are,
Without that person we called ***"Mother"***
Someday when we're brought before God
To be rewarded for our good
I'm sure among the treasures and crowns
She will be rewarded for "MOTHERHOOD".

Love,
- James Jr.

Mama,

I will always remember the times we spent, the moments we shared and the spiritual advice you gave. The world has lost a divine woman of God, but heaven has gained a remarkable angel. I will miss you, but I must stay strong and carry the torch. Some days may be rememberable and others restless. I know you will always be near, shielding us and instructing our guardian angels to camp around us every second and minute from harm. The legacy you leave us is one worthy of mention. I will forever love you and remain committed to the promises I shared. Even though this day has come, I must remain rejoiceful, because the Lord has welcomed you to enter His gates for eternal life.

Love Always,
- Della

Hey There Pretty Lady...

I was just thinking about how...It's 7 a.m. and we're off for the day...I was the driver and you were my passenger...Off we went to Canada, Eastern Market, Kap's Meat Market...to pay a bill or two, and to go by that peanut shed you adored so much! You would sit back and direct me everywhere I drove. "Stay to your right, the Canadian tunnel is two blocks away...it should be coming up soon" "Mom, how do you know so much?" "Just because I can't see, doesn't mean I don't have my memory!" We'd chuckle together and sip on hot chocolate and bite on Tim Horton's Timbits. It's 8 p.m. now,, and we're finally arriving back home, so worn out from the day. If only you could be my passenger again for one day, I'd drive you round the world!

Love You,
- "E-Liz-A-Beth"

Mama,

You lived a long life on earth, but you've moved on to eternity in heaven. Your dreams you've been having on earth about being in heaven with your Mom and Jesus have finally come true. We know with you up there, you're going to watch over us and make sure we accomplish our dreams. You might not be here in body, but you'll be here in spirit...watching over us everyday, every special event and every laughter with a great big smile! We cannot explain how much we will you. You are our mother, inspiration, hope, teacher, motivator, and life-long best friend. You always taught us to do the right thing or nothing at all, and to never give on your dreams no matter how hard or challenging it is.

Love Always,
♥ Ona and Tina "The Twins"

Pallbearers

ALVIN CLACK
WILLIE PRINCE
JERRY WEBB, JR.
MICHAEL ROBINSON

ALAN YOUNG
EDGAR CHAMBLISS, JR.
JOHN HANCOCK
LAMOUNT CHANDLER

Honorary Pallbearers

JAMES C. MAYS, JR.
EUGENE ROGERS
MARQUE CHAMBLISS
JOHN DAVIS
CLIFTON JONES
DR. JOSEPH M. WRIGHT
SUNDIATA MATEEN
WILLIAM "BILL" ROSS

JUDGE DAMON KEITH
JUDGE CRAIG STRONG
MARK C. SMITH
REV. DR. JIM HOLLEY
CHARLES A. JONES, JR.
DR. THOMAS D. MAYS, JR.
KENNETH DONALDSON
CLAUDE EVERAGE

MAYS PRINTING COMPANY STAFF

Flower Bearers

FRIENDS OF THE FAMILY

Final Arrangements Entrusted To

JAMES H. COLE HOME FOR FUNERALS, INC.
2624 W. Grand Blvd. - (313) 873-0771 - Detroit, Michigan
Ms. Karla M. Cole, Directress
www.jameshcole.com

Interment

WOODLAWN CEMETERY
19975 Woodward Avenue - Detroit, Michigan 48203

Acknowledgment:

*The family of the late **Dr. Janet Lorraine Clack Mays,** wishes to acknowledge with deep appreciation the many comforting messages, floral tributes, prayers and many other expressions of kindness and concern evidenced at this time in thought and deed. A more personal acknowledgment will be made at a later date.*

A "Special Thank You" to the staff of Mays Printing Co., Akua Buda Watkins, Bishop Charles H. Ellis III, Ms. Karla M. Cole and James H. Cole Funeral Home staff, Mr. Mike Larkin and Woodlawn Cemetery staff and the Greater Grace Temple family.

Respectfully Designed and Printed By: **MAYS PRINTING CO., Inc.**
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