

Mother Bennie C. Patterson

Bennie C. Williams Patterson is the seventh daughter born to Pendora and Mary Williams, born in the city of Dyersburg, TN. Her parents and siblings have all preceded her in death. The family when she was seven years of age, moved to Robbins, IL. She received her formal education at Lincoln Memorial School and Blue Island High School. She was taught the way of holiness in the home and received the Lord as her savior.

Mother Patterson's early years in the church afforded her the privilege of coming in contact with many of the Church of God in Christ' leading personalities. The family placed their membership at the Church of God in Christ in Robbins under Elder Jack Moore.

During Mother Patterson's young life the Robbins church faced many challenges and several changes in leadership were necessary. Following Elder Moore, Elder S. J. James, Elder J. R. Washington, Elder Mitchell Quinn (Mother Patterson's uncle) and finally, the Elder Freeman G. Green who would later organize Fifth Jurisdiction.

In that day many of the great preachers and evangelist of that day would come through the rural areas and conduct revivals such as the Elder St. Samuel, the Elder W. A. Patterson, Elder E. F. McClellan, Mother Addie Adair, Mother Hannah Broadnax and Mother Anna Davis. It was an interaction with Mother Davis that inspired her to be saved. Mother Davis while visiting had a headache. She asked Bennie if she were saved and she replied no. Mother Davis said "see if you were saved you could pray for my headache." It was at that moment young Bennie decided to be saved, so next time she could pray for Mother Davis' headache.

After graduating from High School Sister Bennie worked at Universal Venetian Blind Company and Handy Button Factory during WWII which made buttons for the Russian Army an allied nation.

In 1946 Bennie began corresponding with Brother Samuel Patterson. She first saw him at the age of 14; an impression was made in her spirit and she declared that she would some day marry him. Though she did not meet him for another 5 years, or so she made a vow to the Lord and God blessed her at the age of 21 to marry Brother Samuel Patterson.

As a young woman she served in the ministry of St. Paul Church of God in Christ under the leadership of then Elder Louis H. Ford as a choir member. She later served in two ministries with her husband at the 17 East University Church of God in Christ in Des Moines, IA and the Church of God in Christ in South Chicago.

Mother Patterson worked in the Minister's Wives Circle after the establishment of Central Illinois Jurisdiction now known as 1st Jurisdiction Illinois. She served the Presidents Desmond Moore, Pearl Favours Lewis, and Margaret Ford.

In 1957 Mother Patterson worked with her husband in establishing St. Samuel Temple Church of God in Christ.

Mother Patterson has given her life serving humanity in and out of the church. She is a model pastor's wife, a mother, a friend, a sister and more.

She retired with her husband in 2001 from day-to-day ministry operations, but she is yet highly celebrated for her labor and her wisdom.

"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord...."

Mother Bennie Patterson made her transition on May 21, 2017 in the late afternoon. She was celebrated by her remaining children, grand and great grandchildren, church family and relatives and friends. She will be sorely missed in the ministry.

