

Obituary

Dr. Mattie Mae Carter McGlothen

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Throughout the annals of time, history has spoken with a clear irrefutable voice to the role of women in the scheme of Divine Destiny. This has been a subject of deep concern to the great minds of our time. Nonetheless, God placed a great woman in our midst who was able to with simplicity give comfort to confounding questions, with God-given grace and dignity.

This great woman of God, Dr. Mattie McGlothen, has opened the porticoes of eternity and has soared like an eagle through the air of fate, and has rode victoriously on the insatiable torrent winds of life. She has carved into our hearts an indelible epitaph that reads: *"I give no credence to the rivers that I must cross, for my only consideration is this: they are beneath my feet"*.

She was born the 11th of 15 children, to the proud parentage of Mr. and Mrs. Evans T. Carter, in Mexia, Texas, a small town near Dallas. She resided in Mexia until the age of six when she moved to Sapulpa, Oklahoma. She attended public school in Sapulpa, Oklahoma from the age of 6 until the age of 15 when she contracted tuberculosis. She attended and graduated from Quindaro College in *February of 1922*, and taught school in Depew, Oklahoma for four years. In *May of 1922*, she returned home to find that her mother was saved. In July of the same year, she received the baptism of the Holy Ghost and was healed of tuberculosis. In September of *1922*, she met the late Bishop George W. McGlothen and through following her heart and obedience to Elder C. Range, they were married Bro. McGlothen in Joplin, Missouri in *1923*. She and her husband have pastored churches in Hugo and Idabelle, Oklahoma; Des Moines, Iowa, Fresno, Los Angeles, and Richmond, California.

In *1933*, Dr. McGlothen was appointed as California State Supervisor and installed in April of 1934. She was given the Northern area while Mother Hale was Supervisor in the Southern area, under Bishop S. Crouch. On *December 13, 1939*, Mother Lizzie Roberson appointed Dr. McGlothen State Supervisor for the States of California and Washington. Thirteen years she served as Supervisor of all of Northern California under Bishop E. B. Stewart. In November of *1957*, Bishop E. E. Hamilton began a work with 22 churches that grew to 63 churches by the time the Jurisdiction was officially organized in January of *1958*. Dr. McGlothen was appointed Supervisor of California Northwest and has remained so for thirty-six years serving faithfully five Jurisdictional Prelates; Bishop E. E. Hamilton, S. R. Martin, Milton Mathis, Clarence Davis, W. W. Hamilton. Mother McGlothen supervises the women of 136 churches and missions in the California Northwest Jurisdiction.

In *1976*, Dr. Mattie Carter McGlothen, was appointed as the 4th General Supervisor of the International Department of Women and 3rd President of the Women's International Convention of the Church of God in Christ by the late Bishop J. O. Patterson, Sr. then presiding Bishop and continued to serve under the Presiding Bishop L. H. Ford until her demise. She supervised this department graciously, and in a God-given manner that brought excellence to the ministry and impeccable respect to the brethren of our church.

She served as, Bishop's and Pastor's Wife, Missionary, Evangelist, Jurisdictional Supervisor, Assistant International Supervisor of Women, International Supervisor of Women, and International Hospitality President.

Dr. Mattie McGlothen has founded, organized and reorganized: The International Hospitality; The Education and Scholarship Fund; The Bishop's Wives Scholarship Fund; The Screening Committee for Jurisdictional Supervisors; The McGlothen Foundation; The Emergency Relief Fund; The WE 12; The Lavender Ladies; The Leadership Conference for Jurisdictional Leaders and National Workers; The California Northwest First Saturday Union meetings. She also reorganized the

"Business and Professional Women's Federation." Our MOM was listed as a the founding member in the *"Who's Who in the Church of God in Christ."* Mother McGlothen was honored as Contra Costa County, California's, "Woman Community Builder of the Year", and was a member of the Parole Board.

Among her many awards and citations are The Charles Harrison Mason Bible Colleges "Distinguished Service in Christian Education Award," The Charles Harrison Mason Theological Seminary "The Golden Truth Award," The Religious Worker's Guild's "Distinguished Services Award," and the "Bishop Charles Harrison Mason Award. She has received Resolutions from Legislatures throughout the United States.

The magnitude of this great woman is extensive. She has been awarded Honorary Degrees of Doctor of Laws and Doctor of Divinity. She embraces honors as "Honorary Citizen" from many cities and holds keys to many cities throughout the United States. Mars Press has recognized her excellence and placed her in the Biographical Dictionary of African-American Holiness-Pentecostals. In her honor, the Dr. Mattie McGlothen Library/Museum was built and dedicated in Richmond, California; the Church of God in Christ purchased and remodelled a motel to house the female homeless and feed them daily. The Mother Mattie McGlothen Home of Love and Hope Emergency Shelter, was dedicated in her honor. The unveiling of the name for the Senior Citizen's Housing Project, being built by the California Northwest Jurisdiction in Oakland, California, "Dr. McGlothen Senior Housing." Her silhouette is on "The Silver Commemorative Medallions" in the Heritage Collection of the Church of God in Christ. A street in Richmond, CA is named in her honor.

Dr. McGlothen has traveled across the United State and to foreign countries carrying the Word of God and being a humanitarian. With the help of the International Department of Women, a home was built for missionaries in the Bahamas Islands, the guest house on the Lexington School Campus was furnished, a pavilion was built in Port-au-Prince, Haiti for senior citizens and unwed mothers, a home in Memphis, Tennessee was purchased and remodeled to house fourteen senior citizens. The McGlothen House Annex, the Women's Department's Office and guest house was purchased in Memphis, Tennessee. Contributions have been made to Bethany House in Cincinnati, Ohio; the New Born Center and Substance Abuse Children in Richmond, Virginia and in the past two years, donations were made to human service agencies in the Milwaukee and Nashville areas, under the project, "I Am Concerned." At the convention this year in San Diego, she has already designated a recipient for this gift.

Through the labor and suffering of great women gone before us and the God given leadership of Dr. Mattie McGlothen, we have an organized Women's Department, with talented and gifted women throughout the world. Dr. Mattie McGlothen, has served California for 61 years with humbleness of heart and tearstained eyes. She was greatly admired for her devotion, wisdom, stability and strong faith in God. A woman of God who has put her hand to the plow and not looked back.

On the evening of May 4, 1994 at her home, Mother Mattie McGlothen departed this life and is at peace with God, and is now rejoicing in her happy heavenly home. For over 50 years she was a loyal, faithful and supporting member of the McGlothen Temple Church of God in Christ.

She leaves to cherish her homegoing the children that she reared Earline McGlothen, James Richard McGlothen, Sandra DeVile, Madeline Heldris, Karen Emerson, Nancy DeVile and Melody Cooper; eight grandchildren, twenty-nine great-grandchildren, and seven great-great-grandchildren, one brother Homer Carter, of Des Moines, Iowa; and a host of other relatives; Mother Freddie J. Bell, Madame Emily Bibby, Novelean Harris, her loving and faithful companion and friend Victoria Williams; and her personal secretary Emma Clark; her local McGlothen Temple church family; the members of the California Northwest Jurisdiction; the International Church of God in Christ family and many friends.

"Yes, she is gone, but not forgotten."

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