

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Perhaps you sent a lovely card, or sat quietly in a chair. Perhaps you sent those beautiful flowers, that we saw sitting there. Perhaps you spoke the kindest words, as any friend could say. Perhaps you were not there at all, just thought of us that day. Whatever you did to console our hearts we thank you so much for whatever part. Special thanks to Dr. Craig S. High and the Bethesda Temple Apostolic Church Family, Evang. Nyra Davenport, Sis. Brenda Pelfrey, Sis. Theresa Brooks, Sis. Beatrice Keeton, Dr. Nathan Lofton, and Evang. Teresa Reed.

## PALLBEARERS

Family and Friends  
Flower Bearers  
Bethesda Temple Woman's Ministry



**INTERMENT**  
WOODLAND CEMETERY

**FUNERAL SERVICES ENTRUSTED TO:**  
THOMAS FUNERAL HOME  
4520 SALEM AVE  
DAYTON, OHIO, 45416

## CELEBRATION OF

# Life



PASTOR

# Marilyn Gross

JANUARY 18, 1947 -  
OCTOBER 31, 2020

Thomas Funeral Home  
4520 Salem Avenue  
Dayton, Ohio 45416

District Elder Timothy Hawkins, *OFFICIANT*  
Dr. Craig S. High, *EULOGIST*

# Obituary

Pastor Marilyn Gross, age 73, was born on January 18, 1947, in Muncie, Indiana. She went home to be with the Lord on Saturday, October 31, 2020, at Miami Valley Hospital. She was preceded in death by her grandparents, Bessie and Robert Cook; mother, Cleida Pierce and twin sister, Marsha McCullough.

At the age of 10 years old, she and her family moved to Dayton, Ohio, where she attended Roosevelt High School. She went on to earn her Associates degree from Sinclair Community College; Bachelor's degree from The University of Dayton, Diploma in Theology from Muskegon Bible Institute, Master's in Theology and Doctorate of Divinity from Grace Apostolic College.

Pastor Gross was baptized in the Name of Jesus and filled with the precious gift of the Holy Ghost. She was a former member of Faith Temple Pentecostal Church of God. She was a faithful and dedicated member of Bethesda Temple Apostolic Church for over 20 years.

She had a passion for community outreach and was an Intercessory Prayer Warrior. She served as an Associate Pastor at Bethesda Temple. She was the chair of many community outreach projects, where she spearheaded providing free meals to the homeless and families in the Dayton and surrounding areas. As she was passionate about ministry, she made an impact in the Miami Valley.

Annually Marilyn organized toys for children during the Christmas season, community gift giving, Thanksgiving and Christmas community dinners. Pastor Gross organized clothing drives, worked with the prison ministry, enjoyed traveling with the Bible Bowl team and studying God's word. Pastor Gross enjoyed serving in many capacities in the church from the baptismal and receiving committee, custodian, hospitality, Uplifters and many others. Additionally, she taught at The Bible Institute and Aeon Bible College. She was the assistant teacher of the Seekers Sunday School class. Previously, she taught the New Saints class at Bethesda as well.

Pastor Gross worked for many years and retired as the Family Counselor Specialist for the Montgomery County Juvenile Court, where she aided many youth and their families with developing the skills they needed to be successful in society. Pastor Gross was serving as a Chaplain at Dayton Correctional Institution. She thrived to see people delivered and develop a spiritual relationship with Christ.

She leaves to cherish precious memories: Niece, Kizette Melvin; Nephew, Cyril D. Melvin, III; Five Great Nephews, Cyril D. Melvin, IV, James Valentine, Jr., Shamar Melvin, Jordan Sharpe and Senai Melvin; a Great-Great Niece, Ja'Onna MiLove Valentine; Extended Family, Rolania Lee and The Demons Family. Prayer partners, Evangelist Hope Wallace, Pastor Teresa Reed and Chaplain Kimberly Taylor; a host of dear friends and the Bethesda Temple Church Family.

# Order of Service

Officiant.....District Elder Timothy Hawkins  
*Pastor, New Covenant Apostolic Church  
 Dayton, OH*

Prayer of Comfort.....Pastor Donald Edwards

Old and New Testament Scripture Reading.....Pastor Teresa Reed  
*Psalm 34:1-8 & I Thessalonians 4:13-18*

Musical Selection.....Bethesda Temple Praise Team

Words of Comfort.....Pastor Stephen Wilks  
*Bethesda Temple Ministerial Alliance*

Evangelist Michelle Arnold  
*Various Church Ministries*

Chaplain Sylvia Moseley  
*Dayton Correctional Institution*

Obituary and Acknowledgments.....Sister Beatrice Keeton

Musical Selection.....Robert Chapman

Words of Expression.....Family and Friends  
 Kizette Melvin, Niece  
 Chaplain Kimberly Taylor, Friend  
 Sophie Berry, Extended Family

Musical Selection.....Bethesda Temple Praise Team

The Eulogy.....Dr. Craig S. High  
*Senior Pastor, Bethesda Temple Apostolic Church*

Interment — Woodland Cemetery