

# Order of Service

Prelude..... Medley of Hymns .....Musician  
Fernando Little, Cousin

Processional

Solo ..... Soon I Will Be Done .....St. Mark's  
Inspirational Mass Choir, Soloist, Tonya Little

Prayer of Comfort ..... Deborah Asbury, Cousin

Scriptures

Old Testament: Psalm 121. .... Rev. Dr. Russell Alexander  
Associate Pastor, St. Mark's United Methodist Church

New Testament: 2 Corinthians 5:1-4 & 2 Timothy 4:6-8  
Rev. Dr. Aldana Allen, Senior Pastor  
St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Affirmation of Faith .....No. 881

Doxology .....Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow

Reflections .....Two Minutes Please  
Rev. Dr. Ira "Ike" Credle, Elon University Classmate  
Doris Clegg, Cousin  
Greg Little, Cousin  
Troy Gaston, Brother  
Carolyn Witherspoon-Blake, St. Mark's UMC  
Simone Bryson Howze, Daughter

Acknowledgements .....Tiffany Miller Williams, Cousin

Musical Selection .....Worth ..... St. Mark's Inspirational  
Mass Choir Duet: Alston R. Howze (Son-in-law) & James L. Howze

Words of Comfort .....Bishop Ricky D. Helton, Cousin  
67th Bishop of the CME Church, Cincinnati, Ohio

Musical Selection ..... St. Mark's Inspirational Mass Choir  
Since I Laid My Burdens Down

Committal  
Recessional



## Note of Thanks

With deep gratitude, we express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the many friends and church family for their acts of kindness and expressions of sympathy shown to us during our bereavement. May God bless each and everyone of you.

The Family of Vivian Miller Bryson

A light from our house is gone  
A voice we loved is stilled  
A place is vacant in our home  
Which never can be filled.  
T'was hard to part with one so dear  
We little thought the time was near, Farwell  
Mama/Vivi, your life has passed.  
Our love for you 'til the end will last.

We will always love you,  
Your Family

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*Arrangements Were Entrusted to:*

COSTNER FUNERAL HOME  
2425 FRANKLIN BOULEVARD  
GASTONIA, NORTH CAROLINA 28052  
PHONE: 704-864-6787 | WWW.COSTNERFUNERALHOME.COM

## Celebration of Life for Vivian Miller Bryson



Saturday, December 13, 2025 at 12:00 PM  
St. Mark's United Methodist Church  
917 Clanton Road  
Charlotte, North Carolina 28217

Rev. Dr. Aldana Allen, Pastor  
Officiating





## Life Reflections

Vivian D. Miller Bryson, 67, was born on November 22, 1958, in Concord, North Carolina, to Dorothy Miller and Rev. Retoy Gaston. She transitioned peacefully at Trident Medical Center in Charleston, South Carolina on Saturday, December 6, 2025.

She was preceded in death by her husband and mother, William J. Bryson, III and Dorothy Miller, respectively.

Vivian grew up in the Clanton Park Community, and at an early age she joined St. Mark's United Methodist Church under Rev. Clarence Strickland, where she remained a faithful and active member. She graduated from Myers Park High School and later attended Elon University, where she discovered her love for writing and became an active member of the gospel choir. Her time at Elon allowed her to form cherished friendships and connect deeply with a community that remained meaningful to her throughout her life.

Vivian, affectionately called "Vibb" by family and friends built long and respected careers in the mortgage and insurance industries. She retired from Allstate Insurance Company where she was admired for her kindness, professionalism and steady spirit. After retirement, Vivian embraced a quieter, joy-filled chapter of life. She loved spending time with her family, especially her beloved grandson, who affectionately called her "Vivi". Becoming a grandmother brought her immeasurable happiness. She poured her heart into creating memories with him by reading stories, sharing laughter, and offering the same gentle encouragement and love she had given her children. Her later years were marked with peace, family love and gratitude for all the blessings God placed in her life.

Above all, Vivian was a devoted mother and grandmother. She treasured every moment with her family and continuously encouraged them to trust the Lord and walk in faith.

To cherish her memories, Vivian leaves behind daughters: Simone Bryson Howze (Alston) of North Charleston, SC and Marshelle L. Bryson of Mint Hill, NC; sons: William J. Bryson, IV of North Charleston, SC and Mark Bibbs of Chapel Hill, NC; brothers: Timmie H. Miller of Charlotte, NC and Troy Gaston (Carol) of Charlotte, NC; her beloved grandson Alston Ryan Howze, Jr. of North Charleston, SC; stepmother, Ada Gaston of Charlotte, NC; aunts: Pearlie E. Asbury of Concord, NC; Mary Louise Helton and Bessie M. Qaiyim all of Charlotte, NC; sisters-in-law Wyndaline "Wendy" Bryson Russell (James) of Charlotte, NC and Emily Bryson Davis of Gastonia, NC; brother-in-law, Anthony G. Bryson of Sharpsburg, GA and a host of loving nieces, cousins, other relatives and friends.

