



Pallbearers

Darren Jarido	Marcus Jarido
Robert L. Nelson, Jr.	Roger Nelson
Gregory Nelson	Geoffrey Nelson
William A. Miller	Joshua Smith, Jr.

Interment

Forest Lawn Memorial Gardens Central
 499 NW 27th Ave
 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

Repast

Northwest Federated Women's Club of Broward County, Inc.
 2161 NW 19th Street
 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33311

In Appreciation

The family of Mother Clara Adams humbly extends our deepest appreciation for every expression of love shown during this season of bereavement. Your prayers, visits, calls, cards, meals, and every act of kindness have strengthened and uplifted us. We are especially grateful to our church family, friends, neighbors, and community partners who have stood with us in word and deed.

Professional Services Entrusted to:



McWhite's Funeral Home
...Because Families Deserve The Best
 3501 West Broward Blvd, Lauderhill, FL 33312
 (954) 584-0047
 www.mcwhitesfh.com

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Clara Adams

JULY 29, 1929 – MARCH 5, 2026

SATURDAY, MARCH 21, 2026
 1:00 PM

MOUNT BETHEL BAPTIST CHURCH
 TEMPORARY WORSHIP LOCATION

Lighthouse Worship Center

2201 NW 24TH STREET
 FORT LAUDERDALE, FL 33311
Pastor Curtis Ballard Jr., Presiding

*"You shall raise up the foundations of many generations."
 — Isaiah 58:12*



MRS. CLARA SMITH ADAMS MATRIARCH OF THE SMITH-LEMON FAMILY

Mrs. Clara Smith Adams was born on July 29, 1929, in Manning, South Carolina, to her beloved parents, Benjamin and Frances Smith Brunson. Rooted in the traditions of faith, family, and Southern strength, Clara's early years shaped the gentle resilience and unwavering devotion that would define her life.

Clara accepted Christ at a young age at Mount Chapel Missionary Baptist Church in Manning, SC, beginning a lifelong walk with the Lord that guided her steps for nearly a century.

In 1952, she married Edward Adams, and together they began a new chapter, journeying from South Carolina to Paterson, New Jersey. There, Clara continued to grow in faith and service, becoming a devoted member of the historic Calvary Baptist Church under the leadership of Charles C. Currin and Rev. Albert P. Rowe. For more than 40 years, she worshiped faithfully, raised her family, and lifted her voice in the choir, a ministry she cherished deeply.

While nurturing her home and children, Clara worked diligently for 30 years at Colorite Plastics of Ridgefield, New Jersey, where her hands, spirit, and work ethic left a lasting impression.

After retiring in 1995, she moved to Atlanta, embracing a new season of life filled with purpose, family connection, and renewed joy. Those years offered her a fresh chapter, one where she poured her love, wisdom, and steady presence into her growing family while continuing to live with grace and intention.

In May 2002, Clara relocated to Lauderhill, Florida. She became a proud member of Mount Bethel Baptist Church in Fort Lauderdale, where she found renewed fellowship and purpose as an active member of the Seasoned Saints Ministry, a community that celebrated wisdom, longevity, and faith qualities she embodied with grace.

Clara also extended her service beyond the church walls. She actively participated in the Northwest Federated Women's Club for over 24 years, supporting community programs, senior initiatives, and the club's mission to uplift families. In her earlier years with the organization, she was hands-on and deeply involved; later, as she entered her 80s, she chose to simply enjoy the fellowship, activities, and friendships that the senior programs offered.

Fiercely independent, Clara lived life on her own terms. She continued driving well into her 90s, proudly remaining behind the wheel until the age of 93. Her independence, confidence, and determination were hallmarks of her spirit, admired by everyone who knew her.

Clara loved working with her hands, whether tending to her plants, caring and baking for her family, or supporting friends with the same nurturing spirit she poured into every part of her life. She delighted in dressing up with her latest stylish hats, traveling, and especially cruising, always ready for the next adventure. Above all, she treasured every moment spent with her children, grandchildren, and the generations that followed. Her presence was a steady light: warm, welcoming, and filled with quiet strength.

Clara is preceded in death by her husband, Edward Adams; her son, Joshua Smith; her daughters, Dorothy and Bernadette Adams-Carroll; and her sister, Louise Brunson-Nelson.

She leaves to cherish her memory are her daughters, Rachel Jarido and Edna Frazier; her grandchildren, Darren Jarido, Catherine Semper (Patrick), Joshua Smith Jr. (Tammy), Charlene Smith, Marcus Jarido (Tina), Syndi Jarido, Berenique and Bernae Carroll; along with a host of great-grandchildren and great-great-grandchildren, and each one held a special place in her heart and will carry forward her legacy of love, faith, and family.

Clara also leaves behind three men who held a special place in her heart: Benjamin Carroll, her devoted son-in-law, the husband of her late daughter Bernadette, who remained connected to the family through loyalty, love, and shared memories; William Miller, her son-in-love, whom she cherished as one of her own; Joe L. Lee, her step-son, who was always a meaningful part of her extended family circle.

She was the Matriarch of the Smith-Lemon Family, a pillar of strength whose legacy will continue to guide and inspire generations.

Order of Service

Pastor Curtis Ballard Jr., Mount Bethel Baptist Church, Presiding

Family Processional.....Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Invocation.....Pastor Robert Nelson, Jr.

Old Testament.....Minister Joe L. Lee

New Testament.....Deacon Cameron Smith

Music Selection.....Amazing Grace

Reflections – (maximum 2 minutes each)

Daughter.....Rachel Jarido & Edna Frazier

Grandchild.....Catherine Semper, Darren Jarido, Berenique & Bernae Carroll

Son-in-love.....William Miller

Cousin.....Evelyn Wade

Mount Bethel.....Seasoned Saints

Music Selection.....I'll Fly Away

Resolution.....Mount Bethel Baptist Church

Acknowledgements.....McWhite's Funeral Home Staff

Music Selection.....Near the Cross

Words of Comfort (Eulogy).....Pastor Benjamin Carroll Jr.,

Greater Antioch Missionary Baptist Church

Family Recessional.....Just a Closer Walk with Thee

