



## Apostle Vincent Leroy Smith Sr.

October 17, 1966 - December 9, 2022

Apostle Vincent Leroy Smith, age 56, of New Haven, CT transitioned from his Earthly Tabernacle to his Eternal Home on early Thursday morning, December 9, 2022. He was born on October 17, 1966, in New Haven, CT to the union of the late Bishop Charles Smith, Sr. and Dr. Zettie B. Smith. Apostle Smith was the youngest out his siblings and was spoiled rotten. He attended Ivy Street Elementary School, Jackie Robinson, and Wilbur Cross, all in New Haven, CT. He spent his college years at The Wilberforce University in Wilberforce, Ohio where he studied Mass Communications.

Apostle Smith was very active and faithful to the ministry as he served under his father. Along with being a song writer, he served in various auxiliaries. To name a few, Male Chorus, Jr. and Sr. Usher board, Sunday School, several choirs, Praise and Worship leader for over twenty years, Jr. President of the General Young People Christian League of the Unified Freewill Baptist Churches, Inc. Eventually he became the only unanimously voted President of the General Young People Christian League of the Unified Freewill Baptist Churches, Inc.

As he began to walk in the calling of God he became an Associate Minister, and Evangelist. His initial sermon was on July 26, 1986, entitled "Did You Sign the Right Contract?" The Lord continued to exalt Vincent and on August 1992, he was ordained Elder by the late Chief Prelate, Bishop Jonathan Powell.

Hearkening to the voice of the Lord and former instructions given to him by his father, Bishop Charles Smith Sr. (before his demise), Elder Vincent Smith humbly and obediently took his father's mantle upon him and on December 3, 2000, he became the Pastor of The Morning Star Church and the Presiding Prelate of the Freewill Holiness Churches, Inc.

He has served as a member of The Morning Star Deliverance Ministries for over 56 years, Freewill Holiness Churches Inc. (Volume of the Book Deliverance Church International) as Chief Apostle. He is the president of the Word-Fest Conference an interdenominational fellowship of Christian youth, member of the Joint College of African American Pentecostal Bishops, under the leadership of the late Archbishop J. Delano Ellis.

Having honored membership in the following church organizations, The Connecticut 2nd Jurisdiction of the COGIC (Bishop Hester D. Bordeaux-Presiding Prelate), The Community Churches of God in Stamford CT (Bishop Michael D. Densmore, Presiding Prelate), The Middle Atlantic Conference of the Unified Freewill Baptist Churches Inc (General Bishop C. Nathan Edwers, Presiding Prelate), The General Conference of the Unified Freewill Baptist Churches Inc. (Bishop Elijah Davis Jr. General Presiding Prelate). Apostle Smith earned his Doctor of Divinity and the Humanitarian Social Service Award from the Heart Bible Institute University on October 5, 2019.

Apostle Smith is not a stranger to working in the community having housed the Monday and Thursday morning breakfast program in the church's Bishop Charles Smith Fellowship Hall. He was an instructor for the Greater New Haven Literacy Volunteers Program. As well as being a relevant member of the Greater New Haven Commission on Equal Opportunity. Above all that he is an active member of the Greater New Haven Clergy Association, having served as Treasurer, Vice President, and Executive Coordinator.

Apostle Vincent L. Smith Sr. takes no credit but humbly states, "It is the Lord's doing and it is marvelous in our eyes". Psalms 118:23

Many are the afflictions of the righteous, but the Lord delivers him out of them all; (Psalm 34:19)

And I will restore to you the years that the locust hath eaten, the cankerworm, and the caterpillar, and the palmerworm, my great army which I sent among you. (Joel 2:25)

Apostle Vincent L. Smith Sr. leaves to cherish his memory, his loving children Amber R. Smith of Hamden, CT, Diamond M. Smith of New Haven, CT, Vincent L. Smith Jr., and Jonathan M. Smith (Evangelist Shawn Outlaw) of Middletown, DE. His grandchildren, Valerie A. Smith and Zoe M. Smith-Cox of Hamden, CT. His siblings, Doreatha Byrams of Hampton, VA, Edith Fortes (Stephan Fortes) of New Haven, CT, Deacon Samuel Smith (Overseer Ophelia Smith) of New Haven, CT, Carole A. Smith of Whiteville, NC, Vivian Dildy of West Haven, CT. His aunt Edythe Bryant (Henry Bryant) of Hamden, CT. His great aunt Mattie Smith of West Haven, CT. His loving Sugarlump, Pastor Yvette Dawn Speight. His god-mother, Ms Emma Lewis, god-daughters (daughter) La'Toya Garrett-Smith and Minister TaMesha Greene. His god-son LaMar Greene. A host of nieces, nephews, cousins, friends, and spiritual sons and daughters. His special friends Apostle Martha Gould, Pastor Roger Wilkins, and Bishop David Burgess (Lori Burgess), Bishop Deandre Nixon, Elder Cherie Greene. His faithful adjutant Anthony Abdul Lateef. Pastor Brian Bellamy and Apostle J Kelly Edge.

Predeceased by his parents Bishop Charles Smith Sr. and Dr. Zettie B. Smith, his first wife Valerie Smith, his son Jasper A. Smith, his brother Deacon Charles Smith Jr., and his brother-in-law Larry Dildy.

You have fought a good fight. Take your rest. You will be missed, but never forgotten.

Humbly submitted,  
Your loving family

# Cemetery Details

## Beaverdale Memorial Park

90 Pine Rock Avenue  
New Haven, CT

# Previous Events

## Calling Hours

DEC 19. 8:00 AM (ET)

Morning Star Volume of The Book International  
125 Dixwell Ave  
New Haven, CT

## Funeral Service

DEC 19. 10:00 AM (ET)

Morning Star Volume of The Book International  
125 Dixwell Ave  
New Haven, CT

# Tribute Wall



“ *Apostle Vincent Leroy Smith Sr.*

October 09, 2023 at 06:14 AM



“ *James, Clayton lit a candle in memory of Vincent Smith*



**James, Brenda Clayton** - January 25, 2023 at 08:24 AM



“ *Pamela Spruill lit a candle in memory of Vincent Smith*



**Pamela Spruill** - December 21, 2022 at 09:01 AM

KK

“ God blesses all them who serve in his will and never question just keep serving because they know his voice ,the ministry is a gift of God showing he has chosen so when God calls the chosen we must be in his will of harmony for it is with his anointing they were placed to go home with the anointing still fire burning is such a Great light ,I say so long my brother in Christ yet the elders before you whom have past have set up the welcome and are in rejoice to see you come for thine is the kingdom and the spirit is alive so alive is the Holy Spirit of God just unseen yet its light shines so bright my condolences to the family along with the recognition of praise God Bless

Kimberly Kyles - December 20, 2022 at 12:35 AM

JH

“ Jettie Hannah lit a candle in memory of Vincent Smith



Jettie Hannah - December 20, 2022 at 12:13 AM

JH

“ Jettie Hannah lit a candle in memory of Vincent Smith



Jettie Hannah - December 20, 2022 at 12:09 AM

YJ

“ Rest EZ my High school buddy, ill see you when I get there. Comfort and peace to the Smith family.



Yvonne Jones - December 19, 2022 at 01:54 PM

PF

Praying for the family! Sorry I was unable to attend but because I couldn't get a flight out. But you all were and are still in my prayers! To be a essence from the body is to be presence with the Lord!

Pastor Robert D.Williams and family - December 20, 2022 at 07:40 PM

EB

“ My condolences to the Smith family. He fought a good fight, He finished his course, He kept the faith.

Edwin Brown - December 19, 2022 at 11:15 AM

SH

I can really say that , Vincent always was an angel on earth to me you could look at his beginning that CHRIST would be his end to a MAGICAL BEGINNING, I WILL NEVER forget my friend and Angel 💕  
😊!!! Amen walk into your eternal BLISS!!!

Sheila - December 19, 2022 at 02:52 PM

EB

“ Our thoughts and prayers are with our Smith family in the loss of Apostle Vincent!  
Love,  
Kee and Evelyn

Evelyn Smith Booker - December 19, 2022 at 09:57 AM

RF

“ To the Smith family, wishing you comfort and peace during this bereavement period. Cousin Vincent we will miss you, but to those who knew you we will never forget your kind spirit. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with the family at this time.



*Jerome and Rosa Smith, Greensboro, NC*

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**Rosa Faulk-Smith** - December 19, 2022 at 09:33 AM



“ When Uncle Charles and Co-Pastor Zettie Belle Smith moved from Connecticut back to North Carolina, their son Vincent succeeded them as Pastor. Years later, when I moved back to Connecticut, Vincent was my Pastor until I again relocated back to North Carolina. HE was the first and only person with whom I shared one of the Topics on which I was writing from the Bible. That Topic is: TITHES. Since I also wrote on the subject “OFFERINGS”, I’m not sure if what I shared with him was TITHES and OFFERINGS or simply: TITHES. Nonetheless, he accepted it for what it was: The Work of The LORD.

*Submitted by Jennie Mae Pickett*

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**Jennie Pickett** - December 19, 2022 at 08:43 AM

KF

“ *Kelvan Fitzpatrick lit a candle in memory of Vincent Smith*



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**Kelvan Fitzpatrick** - December 19, 2022 at 12:16 AM

DS

“ May God comfort and send Healing 2 all Family Members I went 2 school with Bishop Vincent ...Didn't know of his passing until I heard it on The Sweet Sounds Of Praise with A.J. on Sunday Dec 18th May God speed u on your Journey Man of God.

Dorothy Spruill - December 18, 2022 at 08:04 AM

DE

“ My condolences to the smith family he will be truly missed great man of God I will miss are funny phone conversations no matter what you kept it so so real never judge mental Rlp.



Dana Edwards-Rawls - December 18, 2022 at 01:21 AM

EB

“ I'm just lost of words Rest In Peace Apostle Smith !!!



ethel bookert - December 17, 2022 at 11:38 PM

GI

“ Smith Family,  
Please know you have been in my thoughts and prayers ever since I heard the news. For over 45 years I've heard his raspy voice - it will be missed. However, I believe our God had prepared a place for Vincent. May your faith carry you and your memories comfort you-know that God is still in control.  
Gina Hamilton & Janay Stackhouse  
Clarksburg, MD

Gina - December 17, 2022 at 10:39 PM



“ *My condolences to the entire Smith family, I want you all to know. I love you all Continuous Prayers!!! Sister Lisa Bostic*



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**Lisa Bostic** - December 16, 2022 at 08:43 PM



“ *I am going to miss/ love you forever! First he was one my best friend from way back growing up in church together. He has taught me so much, about the word of God. Everybody knows he was a walking Bible, but he also knew how to have fun. Whenever I was in town, he was 2nd person I called that's what best friends did. I was one of his, traveling drivers. He said God said that you are to be one of my spiritual daughters, and I will own that forever!!! REST ON APOSTLE DAD, REST ON!!! SISTER LISA BOSTIC, CHARLOTTE NC!!!*

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**Lisa Bostic** - December 16, 2022 at 08:34 PM



“ *IRMA WILLIAMS lit a candle in memory of Vincent Smith*



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**IRMA E WILLIAMS** - December 16, 2022 at 08:21 PM

HP

“ To Smith Family: Sending my condolences 🌸 and prayers. Vincent was beloved man in the Dixwell community having breakfast & clothes drive, serving on various committees helping people. Kept smile on his face 😊 loved some good singing programs held there in morning star , now Vincent going home to family and friends SIP Upstaires continue doing work with angles



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**Helen C Powell** - December 16, 2022 at 03:29 PM

DB

“ Dr. Baskin lit a candle in memory of Vincent Smith



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**Dr. Theresa Baskin** - December 16, 2022 at 03:25 PM

DW

“ 1 file added to the tribute wall



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**Donald whitted** - December 15, 2022 at 09:08 PM

DW

“ Rip my brother every time i visit your church you always have somethings funny to say to me i rembemer when morning star was on newhall.st.many years ago use be my foster father' church rev.james t.green. then pass church to your father' bishop charle smith i was very young but i can rembemer that far back blessed the lord 🙏 i always would here you say at morning star church 125 dixwellave nh. D.whitted forestpark.ga.



Donald whitted - December 15, 2022 at 08:59 PM

DW

“ Hello the bishop smith family just now Seeing passing bishop vincent smith very highly repected man of god 🙏 family please rembemer god knows when to call us home.donald whitted late rev.jamest t. green.foster son. Forest park.ga.

Donald whitted - December 15, 2022 at 05:23 PM

MP

“ My prayers and condolences to the family earth has know sorrow that heaven can't heal my friend is gone but never be forgotten RIP.Apostle Vincent Smith Minister .Angela Pemberton and Family.

Min.Angela Pemberton - December 15, 2022 at 06:11 AM

SC

“ Apostle Vincent Smith would be truly missed where the doors of the church was always open thank you for your kindness

stephanie caldwell - December 14, 2022 at 10:54 PM

ED

“ *S.I.P Cousin Vincent I'm gonna miss your randon phone calls*



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**Evadale Daniels--Smith** - December 14, 2022 at 09:07 PM

LJ

*R.I.P Apostle, we enjoyed your friendship. I especially enjoyed being his Personal Banker. He will forever be missed.*

*Humbly Submitted.  
Mr. & Mrs  
Richard Johnson  
Houston, TX*

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**Lillian Johnson** - December 15, 2022 at 11:57 AM

CS

“ *Clara Smith lit a candle in memory of Vincent Smith*



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**Clara Smith** - December 14, 2022 at 09:03 PM

PG

“ *PRAYS OF COMFORT TO THE FAMILY..THE GLORIFIED DELIVERANCE CENTER CHURCH FAMILY.. PASTOR JUDY AND MINISTER DANIEL GRAY .*

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**PASTOR JUDY GRAY** - December 14, 2022 at 04:51 PM

RA

*On the behalf of pastor vincent Smith we ways know that to be absent  
in in the body is to to in the body of Christ from the Johnson family  
carlena Johnson rip*

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**rashidalamont@gmail.com** - December 18, 2022 at 10:47 PM