



## Pastor Frank Celestine Sr.

September 5, 1928 - September 23, 2023

Reflections of a Faithful Shepherd....

To everything there is a season, a time to be born..." - Reverend Dr. Frank Celestine, Sr., was born September 5, 1928 in Cade, Louisiana to Eleneore and Maude Celestine.

"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." - He began his education in the St. Martin Parish School System before moving to Galveston, Texas at the age of 17 years old. He furthered his Christian education by attending Conroe Bible College.

"Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it." - He accepted the Lord as his Savior at a young age. He was baptized at Saint Mark Baptist Church in Cade, Louisiana under the leadership of Reverend Pierre Lurnan. He received his call into the ministry at Greater Bell Zion Missionary Baptist Church in Texas City, Texas under the leadership of the late Rev. Dr. Wiley L. Dunn, Sr.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth" - He began his pastoral ministry at Halls Chapel Baptist Church in Brazoria, Texas in 1960. Through the guidance of the Holy Spirit, Pastor Celestine was called to Pastor the Greater New Hope Missionary Baptist Church, Dickinson, Texas in 1968, where he served God's people for 16 years. Through God's divine direction, in May 1984, He led Pastor Celestine to the great East Macedonia American Baptist Church of Houston, Texas where he pastored God's people for 39 glorious years until

God called him home. The church grew exponentially under Dr. Celestine's pastoral leadership; therefore, he led them in a remodeling and expansion project. Pastor Celestine was so dedicated that he would be seen helping the contractor working on the roof and installing the new steeple. The church continued to grow spiritually, physically, and financially as he led them to retire the note. The church continued to impact the city and community by appearing on Sunday morning television and ministering as the guest church on a Sunday program. The church was busy every Sunday as Pastor Celestine became one of the most sought after preachers in the Houston-Galveston Metroplex.

“I must work the works of him that sent me while it is day” - Dr. Frank Celestine, Sr., has held many prestigious positions over the years. He served as 1st Vice Moderator of Southern District Association under the leadership of Moderators, the late Rev. Dr. S. L. Farris and Rev. Dr. A. S. Johnson. Pastor Celestine and fellow pastors followed the Commission of the Holy Spirit and founded Southeast District Association where he served as the first Founding Moderator, serving 10 years. At the time of his passing, he was serving as President of the American Baptist Convention of Texas; and held membership in the National Baptist Convention of America.

“And I said, Oh that I had wings like a dove! for then would I fly away, and be at rest.” - On Saturday, September 23, 2023, God called His faithful servant, Pastor Frank Celestine, Sr., from labor to his eternal reward. Preceding in death are his father and mother, Elenore and Maude Celestine; two brothers; two sisters; and grandchildren, Brian and Kia-Simone.

“I will look unto the hills from whence cometh my help, my help cometh from the Lord” - He leaves a legacy of love with his loving, devoted and beautiful wife, Linda Celestine who took gracious care of him until God called him home; five amazing children, Ada, Larry (Sandra), LaTonya (John, Sr.), Frank, Jr. (Jasmine) and Ashley (Colton); 13 grandchildren: Rodney, Jordan, Malcom, Reggie, Kaylon, Michael, Nicholas, Celeste, Avery, Alani, Ashton, Dottie and Tonya; 6 great-grandchildren; and a host of nieces, nephews, relatives, friends

and his East Macedonia Baptist Church Family.

# Previous Events

## Visitation

OCT 7. 9:00 AM (CT)

East Macedonia Baptist Church  
8630 Duane  
Houston , TX 77051

## Celebration of Life

OCT 7. 11:00 AM (CT)

East Macedonia Baptist Church  
8630 Duane  
Houston , TX 77051

## Burial

OCT 7. 2:30 PM (CT)

Forest Park East Cemetery  
21620 Gulf Freeway  
Webster, TX 77598

# Tribute Wall



“ Norris D Burkley Professional Services created a Tribute Video in memory of Pastor Frank Celestine Sr.



Norris D Burkley Professional Services - October 03, 2023 at 02:33 PM

RP

*My condolences to Sis Linda Celestine, Pastor Celestine's family, as well as the East Macedonia church family. Earth has no sorrow heaven cannot heal.*

*Ruby Powell*

Ruby Powell - October 03, 2023 at 05:32 PM

PW

*My Pastor forever!*

Pastor Henry & Sis. D. Williams - October 03, 2023 at 11:48 PM

PW

*We love the Celestine family*

Pastor Henry Williams - October 03, 2023 at 11:50 PM

TA

*Our condolences and prayers to both the immediate and church families! Asking Holy Spirit to comfort you all!*

*Vernetta, Tonya, Esay, Chasidy, Honey (Tristen) and Trevor*

Tonya Anderson - October 04, 2023 at 11:35 AM

ME

*Our Prayers goes out to the Rev.Frank Celestine Family. From the Rev.Leroy Ross Family*

**Mary Ross Evans** - October 05, 2023 at 01:39 PM

CC

*I am sending condolences to the family, friends and congregates of Rev. Frank Celestine. I thank God for the opportunity to to have shared part of my Christian walk with Pastor Celestine and members of the Greater New Hope B.C. of Dickinson, TX. It was a joyful experience and a perfect place to land after college. God is still GOOD. 🙏 Be comforted by the Spirit and thank Him for giving us life and the life of Pastor Frank Celestine to share. From: Bro. Clarence Cummings*

**Clarence Cummings** - October 05, 2023 at 04:40 PM

LC

“ *My condolences and Prayers to the Celestine Family.You are in our prayers!!! Little Rock Baptist Church.Rev.R.L.Smith and Church Family.*



**Little Rock Bapt Church Texas City,Tx** - October 03, 2023 at 03:24 PM

DJ

“ *I remember as a person,Rev. Celestine & Mrs. Dorothy ( his 1st wife ) would come over my to grandparents house.Rev Celestine & Mrs. Dorothy were family to us (Haywood, White ,Alcorns, Brooks). My Lord, Rev. Celestine could preach. Rev Celestine was a man of God we live on Texas Street back then and lived on Westward. We walk through trail to his house. lol  
Rev. Celestine will be missed. Gone but we never be forgotten.  
We 💕 you Rev. Celestine.*

**Djuana** - October 02, 2023 at 01:07 AM

DJ

“ *Djuana lit a candle in memory of Pastor Frank Celestine Sr.*



---

**Djuana** - October 02, 2023 at 12:49 AM

CA

“ *Wonderful memories of Pastor Celestine and his wife when I was a child growing up and a member of Greater Bell Zion Baptist Church, under the leadership of then, Reverend Wiley L. Dunn. Mrs Celestine made hats for my mother, Mrs Jessie L. Allen. Two very wonderful people that I will always remember as very warm and loving people. Rest easy brother Celestine and thank you for your spiritual guidance.*

---

**Carolyn Allen-Tottenham** - September 28, 2023 at 10:05 AM