



Apostle Collette L. Gunby

May 4, 1949 - April 27, 2023

Apostle Collette Lewis Gunby was the daughter of the late John H. and Thelma O. Lewis, Sr. She was the second child, first daughter, of five children (John, Jr., Nawanna, Veronica, and Renee). Apostle Gunby was born on May 4, 1949 in Atlanta, Georgia. She attended E. R. Carter Elementary School and Booker T. Washington High School graduating with the class of 1967. Pastor Collette Gunby was a graduate of North Carolina College of Theology and received an Honorary Doctorate from Beulah Heights University.

Some are called to lead, some to teach, some to exhort, still others to prophesy. Pastor Collette L. Gunby's call came to no longer assist her husband in ministering, but to carry on his work after his death. Out of adversity has emerged a truly powerful and dynamic ministry. Just as the oyster labors to produce the perfect pearl, and the butterfly evolves from the confines of an unsightly cocoon, life's greatest tragedies can sometimes produce a miraculous turn of events. The ministry of Green Pastures Christian Ministries, Inc. is a testament to the character of a woman whose faith in God never wavered, even in the midst of her most tumultuous storm.

Married at the tender age of 18, Collette Lewis Gunby was unprepared for the realities of life as a wife and mother. Despite a deeply religious upbringing, youthful passions ruled her household. Those heated emotions at last led to a watershed event, resulting in Ronald Gunby being mortally wounded. As she

nursed her husband's fallen body, Collette read to him her favorite Scriptures. The 23rd Psalm seemed to ease his pain, and brought peace back into her home.

“The Lord is my Shepherd. I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for thou art with me.”

Ronald Gunby's heart opened to the Word of God and, as he recovered, began to seek out the meaning of his life. From his searching emerged the Green Pastures Christian Ministries. At first a small gathering of worshipers in their home soon mushroomed into a full-fledged Church. As the membership grew into the hundreds, Rev. Gunby was growing in the Lord. He was given a prophetic manifesto...a blueprint for building a religious empire...revealed to him in prayerful communion with God. After his death in 1986, the prophecies of Ronald Gunby became a living legacy through the vessel of his widow.

During the 12 years Ronald Gunby survived, confined to a wheelchair, he penned a master plan that outlined in thorough detail the future of Green Pastures. As witness to the birth of this hand-written document, Collette Gunby willingly took up the mantle as envisioned by her husband, and has followed precisely the path he set forth. “My husband was the visionary,” explains Pastor Gunby. “I'm the cook, just completing his recipe.” Committed to memory, she kept the tattered and aging document, shielded by plastic covers to preserve it, close at hand.

Using her God-given talents, Pastor Gunby, as she prefers to be called, crafted a ministry that is non-traditional by most Christian standards. Straight talking and practical, she was nonetheless devoted to fulfilling the Lord's

purpose for her life. She built an apostolic ministry in which she takes full responsibility for the souls of the flock of her followers. Numbering in the tens of thousands over the years.

Only three days after the home going service for Ronald Earl Gunby, Collette Gunby kept an appointment previously made by Ron with an investor to arrange financing for the new church facility. In less than five months, Pastor Gunby moved her grieving congregation into a \$1.2 million church facility. The financial institution financed this acquisition with a 100% loan. God divinely included a 42-acre retreat with an 8-acre lake for good measure. When the seed of Ron Gunby went into the ground, it was as though the time and seasons were right for a miraculous move of God. God inspired Pastor Collette L. Gunby to purchase five houses across the street from the church in 1987. That same year Green Pastures began the childcare division of the school, which began in 1982. The school now goes from six weeks old to twelfth grade with enrollment of over 200 children.

In 1989 God led Apostle Gunby to renovate the church sanctuary and her thoughts also turned toward a new gymnasium facility. The same financial institution financed the second million-dollar loan. A balcony and gymnasium were completed in 1989.

Possessing strength tempered by wisdom of time and tragedy, Pastor Gunby has moved boldly forward into a world that was once predominately male. Under her guidance, the non-denominational congregation has acquired a wealth of properties. The church purchased 6.5 acres of commercial in-town real estate in the historic West End District of Atlanta, for a mixed-use development that includes "Skyloft Condominiums". Green Pastures was the first church to obtain a TND (Traditional Neighborhood Development) Zoning from Dekalb County. A comprehensive planned community on 97.2 acres will

include a sanctuary, child development center, school, elderly housing and subdivision. Green Pastures received two grants from the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development totaling approximately \$6 million dollars for the construction of 74 units of elderly housing and supportive services: Green Pastures Commons.

For over 20 years, Green Pastures Christian Ministries, Inc. produced and presented an annual dramatic musical presentation “King of Glory” boasting a spectacular 250-cast performance with an annual audience of 25,000. Many of those attending have been healed and set free by the power of the Spirit in the performances. They come in wheelchairs, from orphanages, elderly homes, by busloads from all across the United States and from all walks of life for a touch from the Spirit of God. The Bible comes to life as angels fly and the heavenly host proclaim Jesus Christ in every act.

Pastor Gunby is also a keen, savvy businesswoman who instinctively knows organization. Green Pastures operates more like a fortune 500-company than a traditional church, with 60 employees.

In 1999, Pastor Gunby was a speaker for the National Faith-Based Initiative presented by HUD. In 2000, she was also the honored guest of President Bill Clinton to discuss Faith-Based Initiatives. She has been featured many times on TBN Spotlight Ministry, AIB, WATC TV57 as well as Gospel Radio.

Pastor Collette L. Gunby is a woman truly on a mission. Her outreach ministry goes into public housing communities, hospitals, nursing homes, street ministry, homeless ministry and prisons. Children excel in the church-run school. Instilling strong principles and values in the next generation is a major focus of her ministry.

Pastor Gunby was in demand all over the country because of her practical teaching and the anointing God places on her to break yokes and to set captives free. A self-described shy, quiet young girl has blossomed into a powerful force in the community. She credits it all to her deceased husband's vision, which revealed her gifts for the entire world to see. This woman's gifts and callings powered by the Holy Spirit are undeniable. For no man or woman could do these things except God is with them.

Pastor Collette L. Gunby is the author of three books: "The Plumbline", "Through Shadows of Death" and "Courageous Women – Chosen to Lead". She also co-authored "Failure the Womb of Success".

Rev. Dr. Collette L. Gunby leaves to cherish her precious memory two children, Kelley and Douglas (Tamar) Gunby. She simply adored her grandchildren DeShon, Tiffani and Kristopher; one brother Archbishop John H. Lewis Jr, four sisters, Rev. Nawanna Lewis Miller (Deacon George), Veronica Lewis Long, Aretha Rosser and Renee "Sunshine" Lewis; nieces, nephews, cousins, Green Pastures Family, the innumerable lives she touched, and a host of friends.

Cemetery Details

Hillandale Memorial Gardens

6201 Hillandale Drive
Lithonia, GA 30058-4759

Previous Events

Visitation

MAY 5. 12:00 PM - 8:00 PM (ET)

Green Pastures Christian Church
5455 Flat Shoals Pkwy
Decatur, GA 30034

Celebration of Life

MAY 6. 10:00 AM (ET)

Green Pastures Christian Church
5455 Flat Shoals Pkwy
Decatur, GA 30034

Tribute Wall

SR

“ Praying for Minister Kelly and Pastor Doug for God's Grace . Pastor Gunby impacted my life with her teachings on living a Godly life . Teaching us with sound , , always biblical based advice. Honoring your life Pastor ,for always being true . Loving you always Let the Life i Live Speak for me. Sonya Shropshire Rashid

sonya rashid - May 05, 2023 at 04:11 PM

TR

“ At a young age of 30 & 25, my wife and I had the pleasure of being introduced to Green Pastures Christian Ministries by a college friend. This was a blessing we didn't know that we needed or realize the impact GPCM would have on us. Gaining spiritual knowledge from Pastor Gunby was priceless, it continues to serve us today. Thank you Gunby Family for sharing your Mother with us. Taylor & Andrea Rucker

Taylor Rucker - May 05, 2023 at 09:10 AM

DN

“ Demetrice Noyd lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby



Demetrice Noyd - May 04, 2023 at 11:17 PM

FM

“ *Frances H. MahanHill lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby*



Frances H. MahanHill - May 04, 2023 at 10:05 PM

GD

“ *Gloria Lawrence Dawkins purchased the Sweet T enderness for the family of Apostle Collette L. Gunby.*



Gloria Lawrence Dawkins - May 04, 2023 at 10:02 PM



“ *Pastor Collette L Gunby! My former pastor! A woman of God who allowed the power of God to flow through her freely! Her teaching the word and principles of how to apply the word are still with me today! I will miss knowing that she's no longer in earth realm, but because she taught us to trust God and his word I know that she is with her heavenly father. I know that God and the heavenly host are rejoicing over her completing her earthly ministry! God is faithful and has prepared a mansion for her. To the family, praying that the holy spirit will comfort and strengthen you like only he can. ❤️🙏😊*

Gloria Lawrence Dawkins

Gloria Dawkins - May 04, 2023 at 09:10 PM

TP

“ *The Law Firm of Dwight L. Thomas, PC purchased the Sweet Sincerity for the family of Apostle Collette L. Gunby.*



The Law Firm of Dwight L. Thomas, PC - May 04, 2023 at 05:49 PM

AN

“ *Annie lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby*

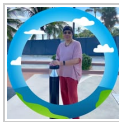


Annie - May 04, 2023 at 04:43 PM

AN

My condolences goes out to the family

Annie - May 04, 2023 at 04:43 PM



For the many years under your pastoral care I truly came closer to God. May your teachings continue to serve as a legacy to many. We love you, but God loves you best.

Gloria Dilworth - May 05, 2023 at 09:29 PM

EG

“ *My Pastor of many years who I will truly miss. When she saw me after leaving the church for 3 years and came home to GP she came to me and said my lost sheep had returned home and call me by name. Which I thought she didn't know my name.*



I will miss all the laughs behind close doors in the office with her knowledge of wisdoms. You are finally home to be with love one Pastor Gunby , you are the only true pastor to me.

Ellen Germany - May 03, 2023 at 06:55 PM

BZ

“ *Brenda Zachery lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby*



Brenda Zachery - May 03, 2023 at 05:33 PM

BZ

My condolences to the family of this mighty women of God.

Brenda Zachery - May 03, 2023 at 05:38 PM



“ *Simply Elegant Spathiphyllum was purchased for the family of Apostle Collette L. Gunby.*



May 03, 2023 at 03:05 PM

DS

“ DWIGHT L. THOMAS, ESQ. & STAFF lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby



DWIGHT L. THOMAS, ESQ. & STAFF - May 03, 2023 at 10:47 AM

CA

“ I remember listening to Rev. Dr. Collette Lewis Gunby over the Radio, when My Mother would pick me up from School. She and her husband would be teaching the principles of a Christian Life and how to Pray to God, for your hearts desires. She will be missed.
Rev. Dr. Cee' Cee' Anderson , DDHCA, PH

Cee' Cee' Anderson - May 02, 2023 at 07:43 PM

ES

“ Elder Ron Brown, Sr. lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby



Elder Ron Brown, Sr. - May 02, 2023 at 07:28 PM

ES

“ As we morn the loss of this great Woman of God on this side, we know that Apostle Collette L. Gunby has received her reward in the open and welcoming arms of our Lord and Savior. Well Done good and faithful servant. Rejoice in Heaven and be greeted by Loved ones in the presence and glory of God! Thank you for the many lessons both taught and caught by me and my family both near and far. Blessings upon you Green Pastures Christian Ministries Nation. To her family much Respect.

Elder Ronald W. Brown, Sr. - May 02, 2023 at 07:27 PM

GP

“ Gloris Powell-Nelson lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby



Gloris Powell-Nelson - May 02, 2023 at 08:55 AM

GP

Dr. Gunby II and my family the boys was now young mens Caleb Powell and Joshua Powell who attended Green Pastures Christian School will miss you so much, we Thank The Most High for the many years of teaching and showing us how to live and walk by Faith, Trust God and stand firm in waging Battles.. Such a Honest desecnt and Powerful woman of God. I know the Angels are rejoicing in Heaven for your work down here is done .Go on Dr. Gunby for You shall wear a Crown....I say to Pastor Douglas and Minister Kelly Gunby keep The Legacy Alive. I am truly sorry for your lost. Your Mother always my Pastor has left a mark in our hearts... Caleb ,Joshua Powell and my Mommy Gloris Powell-Nelson

Gloris Powell-Nelson - May 02, 2023 at 09:08 AM

DS

“ *Pastor Gunby will be truly missed. A great woman of God. Heaven has received another Perfect Angel. Sending Healing Prayers & Comfort to the Family.*



Dale Stephens-Chapman - May 01, 2023 at 05:52 PM

NB

“ *Apostle Collette L. Gunby was a true Believer in Christ! a Trailblazer! a Teacher of the Word, your being here on earth has Blessed us all! Woman of GOD you taught us well. My family and I are PRAYING for Doug, Kelly your grandbabies, your sibling, your entire family and the GP family. Heaven truly gained a special lady. We LOVE you and will miss you!*



The Baker, Jones and Turner family

Nekita Baker - May 01, 2023 at 04:10 PM

AP

“ *What an awesome woman of God!! She was a phenomenal trailblazer for the body of Christ. Many ministries started from her guidance, teaching and preaching! She impacted many lives around the world. Words can't describe how much she will be missed. Heaven truly gained a special lady! God bless the entire family!*
Antonio Proctor



Antonio Proctor - May 01, 2023 at 02:06 PM

DH

“ *My heart is broken “Rest In Heaven” Pastor Gunby*



Dot Howard - May 01, 2023 at 05:58 AM

LM

“ *Leila Moore lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby*



Leila Moore - April 30, 2023 at 10:37 PM

GB

“ *Gwen Bennett lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby*



Gwen Bennett - April 30, 2023 at 07:59 PM

RL

“ *We will miss you Mighty Woman of God!!! You have been a blessing to me and my family! Words cannot express my gratitude. I am praying for you children, family, friends, and members of Green Pastures Church! Rev. CJ Lewis*



Rev. CJ Lewis - April 30, 2023 at 01:22 PM

HH

“ *Hurronda Holland lit a candle in memory of Apostle Collette L. Gunby*



Hurronda Holland - April 29, 2023 at 10:42 PM

HH

“ *I was saddened to hear the news. She was my pastor for nearly half my life. I will never forget her teachings. She loved her God and God's sheep. She embodied a true pastor's heart! Sending love and prayer to her family and GPCM. I love you Apostle Gunby! I will always remember this from you: " DONT BE MOVED BY WHAT YOU SEE OR HOW YOU FEEL. ALWAYS BE MOVED BY YOUR CONVICTIONS (WHAT YOU BELIEVE)." Hurronda Holland McDonough, Ga. 🙏🙏*

Hurronda Holland - April 29, 2023 at 10:40 PM

V-

Our family thanks you so very much for your lovely words of comfort! May God continue to bless and keep you!

Veronica Rushin -Long - May 01, 2023 at 07:07 AM



Words cannot express how much you mean to our family. Pastor Gunby , you are a powerful anointed vessel of God. Because of your teachings our family is saved born again believers. Your great smile laugh and conversations were such a blessing. We learned to become soldiers in our Mighty Gods army. You taught us how to stand when life blows and believe and have faith. Your very presence was anointed. You brought about change healing deliverance hope restoration life and purpose. You are an will forever be our Pastor. May God watch over your family with prayer and praise. We will truly miss you. Lewis and Maria Jones. ❤️

Jones Maria - May 01, 2023 at 02:51 PM

VB

Apostle Gunby was an awesome anointing woman of God! A great pastor! I will miss her! Condolences to the family!

Vickie Brown - May 03, 2023 at 07:32 AM

GW

Pastor Gunby was a real blessing to me! When I think of her, my heart smiles at some of her teachings. She taught me how to stretch my faith in God, Stand on His word and believe! No matter what it looks like, God is still there for me.

A true example of God, she will be missed beyond words. God has gained an angel in his kingdom.

Rest from your labor, woman of God.

Many Souls were saved under her ministry, she not only preached the word, She lived it.

To Kelley and Doug, the Lewis family, the grandchildren, prayers are going up for you, That Our God will comfort and give you peace in the days to come . Continue her legacy!

Glenda Walker

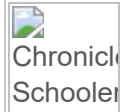
Glenda Walker - May 03, 2023 at 09:59 PM

RM

In Memory of a Chrisitan Warrior and Sister in the Gospel Ministry. You have meant so much to so many. Thank you for your Leadership and Ministry to Dekalb County and the Nation. Rest in Peace.

*The Christian Women's Ministerial Association of Ga.
Pastor Portia T. Minter, Moderator*

Rev. Portia Minter - May 04, 2023 at 02:25 PM



*To the Gunby Family. I just learned of your mother's passing. I first came to know Pastor Ron & Collette Gunby in the late 70's. Pastor Ron christened my son Michael in 1979. I learned about God's love and salvation through this ministry. It is where I accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as my Savior. Once I asked Apostle Collette after receiving this postcard of as it was called, The Rapture, "I want to ask God, where do people go when they die?" Her answer to me was, "Gina, be careful what you ask God because He will give you what you ask for." A few weeks later, I spent the weekend with my grandparents and my prayer was answered. I will say this much, this vision lasted for several hours. I shared it with Apostle Collette and I can also say, her prayers as well as Pastor Ron Gunby made a difference in my life. She will be greatly missed and much loved and respected. My deepest condolences to you Douglas and Kelly. You all are in our prayers. Much love to you and your family in Christ Jesus Our Lord.
Gina McCain and Family - God bless*

Chronicle Schooler - August 26, 2023 at 06:25 PM