

***"Peace is born in the soul -- grows up in the heart --
nurtured and nourished by love and compassion."***

(James H. Hargett, 02 January 2017)



Shoes and Vest worn by James H. Hargett on the march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, 21 – 25 March 1965.

A CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE

OF

THE REVEREND DR. JAMES HESTER HARGETT

(24 JULY 1930 – 01 JANUARY 2018)



Christian Fellowship Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
1601 Kelton Road, San Diego, CA 92114
Saturday, 6th January 2018 -- 12.00noon

ORDER OF SERVICE

PRELUDE – MEDLEY OF SPIRITUALS

“Motherless Child” (Traditional)
“Soon-A Will Be Done” (First Version, arr. Patterson)
“Steal Away” (Wallace Willis, 1862, Traditional)
“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” (Wallace Willis, Traditional)

SENTENCES..... Rev. Dr. J. Lee Hill, Jr.

PROCESSION

GREETINGS..... Rev. Dr. J. Lee Hill, Jr.

LEADER: *The grace of our Savior Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

PEOPLE: ***And also with you.***

OUR PURPOSE..... Randy Jones, Esq.
Dr. Louilyn Funderburk Hargett

SILENT PRAYER / MUSIC – *“Come Sunday”* (Duke Ellington, 1943)
Vocalist..... Michael Wright

UNISON PSALM 121..... Rev. Jessica Chapman

*I lift up my eyes to the hills – from where will my help come?
My help comes from God, who made heaven and earth.
God will not let your foot be moved; God who keeps you will not slumber.
God who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.
God is your keeper; God is your shade at your right hand.
The sun will not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.
God will keep you from all evil; God will keep your life.
God will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.*

MUSIC – *“We Shall Behold Him”* (Sandy Patti, 1981)
Vocalist..... Virginia White

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Romans 8)

LEADER: *Let us say what we believe.*

PEOPLE: *We know that in everything God works for good with those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose. We are sure that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus. Amen.*

21 December 2016, 4.00am: *“We’ll find a way to figure it out.”*

01 January 2017: *“I need the opportunity to go.”*

25 January 2017: (While sitting on the side of the bed.)... *“We have to go.”*... (Louilyn: *“Where?”*)... *“We have to go.”*

11 February 2017, 9.23am: *“... a chance to go...”*

14 March 2017: *“Want to go someplace far away.”*... (Louilyn: *“Where?”*)... *“I don’t know. You can come later.”*

19 March 2017: *“I need a chance to be useful.”*

14 April 2017, 10.45am: *“Sometimes it is not a question of money, it’s a question of searching. Where you can draw upon your creativity and talents.”*

14 April 2017, 8.00pm: *“... to find peace where we go. Once we go there, we find peace. We have to go some place to find peace.”*

Easter Sunday 2017, 10.23am (Waking from sleep)... *“I love that place -- 926 Lincoln Street, Greensboro (Jim’s childhood home). My Mother and Daddy were very good parents. OK. Lord, yes, I will join them.”*

02 June 2017, 8.37am: (In bed.)... *“I am praying for relief from my suffering.”*

29 October 2017, 4.30pm: *“When are we going home? I don’t know. When God calls, we will go. We are ready.”*

03 July 2017: *“Health Care provided in need. The doctors have to decide what is needed.”*

27 December 2017, 6.00am: *“Good morning...”* (Louilyn sings to him the “Good Morning Song” which they both learned in grade school and he joins in.)... *“Good morning to you. We’re all in our places with sunshiny faces and this is the way to start a new day...”*

DURING THE LAST EIGHTEEN MONTHS OF JIM'S LIFE, when his illness left him with very few words and limited memory, he would often utter phrases just beneath his breath while sleeping or resting. His wife, Louilyn, began to write these phrases down, some of which are noted below:

14 July 2016: *"Our body comfort is tied to how we program ourselves."*

16 July 2016, 11.30pm: *"I have a right to go wherever I plead to go. I will take you with me."*

12 August 2016, 5.30pm: *"The amount of consideration, considered."*

13 August 2016, 3.15pm: *"Peaceful sleep."*

31 August 2016, 10.45pm: (In his chair relaxing, while recovering from a bad intestinal bug) ... *"Got food, love, soapy water... all providing grace."*

09 September 2016, 10.17pm: (While sleeping, after renewal of Trump birthism)... *"The irony is that he can do that today... say that today."*

14 October 2016: (Late night)... *"Basketball was a great part of my life, Dudley, JCSU, release of stress. Played basketball but JCSU insisted on graduation... it was a given."*

17 October 2016, 4.11pm: *"Need words to find release from our suffering."*

17 October 2016, 4.12pm: *"Recognize that you are a sinner and need Christ to find your way. Christ-like ways... kind, loving, compassionate. Christ is behind me. He is saying, 'come, turn around and follow me'."*

29 October 2016, 3.30am: *"Louilyn, we help each other."*

14 November 2016, 4.00am: *"Please don't limit their (African-American) educational opportunities."*

20 December 2016, 5.50am: *"Finding a chance to stop..."* (Louilyn: "Stop what?") ... *"Stop the way I feel."*

MUSIC – *"He Looked Beyond My Faults"* (Dottie Rambo, 1977)
Vocalist..... Michael Wright

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE..... William Funderburk, Esq.
Darryl Hargett
Hester Hargett-Aupetit

HYMN (Insert) - *"From The Shores of Many Nations"*
(James H. Hargett, 1971)

EULOGY..... Rev. Dr. Arthur Cribbs

HYMN (Insert) – *"For All The Saints"*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND CELEBRATION
..... Rev. Dr. Arthur Cribbs

**THE LORD'S PRAYER

PEOPLE: Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and
forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Lead
us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For
thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

MUSIC – *"Going Home"* (Dvorak Symphony No. 9, Opus 95)
Vocalist..... Virginia White

COMMENDATION

**BENEDICTION IN UNISON (*"Peace"* - see back cover)

*RECESSIONAL – *"I'm Going Up Yonder"* (W. Hawkins, 1976)
..... Choir & Congregation

*Congregation stands.

**Congregation recites in unison.

Please join us for the repast in Gilbert Hall immediately following the service.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thank you for your prayers, which have deepened our faith;
Your words, which have encouraged our hearts;
Your presence, which has given us arms to lean on;
The thought of every card and expression of kindness and sympathy,
your caring and sharing, have made our burden much lighter.
Please continue to pray for us,
And may God's blessings forever shine on each of you.

With deep appreciation,
The Family of Rev. Dr. James Hester Hargett

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS ENTRUSTED TO:

Mark Jenkins
Preferred Cremation and Burial
6529 University Avenue
San Diego, California 92115
(619)584 7000

GREENSBORO MEMORIAL AND INTERMENT

A brief Memorial will be held in Greensboro, North Carolina on Sunday afternoon, January 7th, at St. Stephen United Church of Christ (his father's ministry of 40 years and Jim's "home church"), followed by the interment at Maplewood Cemetery.

IN LIEU OF FLOWERS

As a Graduate and Trustee Emeritus of Johnson C. Smith University, the family requests that donations be made in Jim's name to the "**JCSU ANNUAL FUND**" to further the University's legacy of excellence in education.

Johnson C. Smith University
100 Beattis Ford Road
Charlotte, NC 28216
(704)378 3577

* Front cover photo: Rev. Dr. James H. Hargett wearing a Christian cross that belonged to his dad, Rev. F.A. Hargett, Sr., welded onto the West African Adinkra symbol for God.

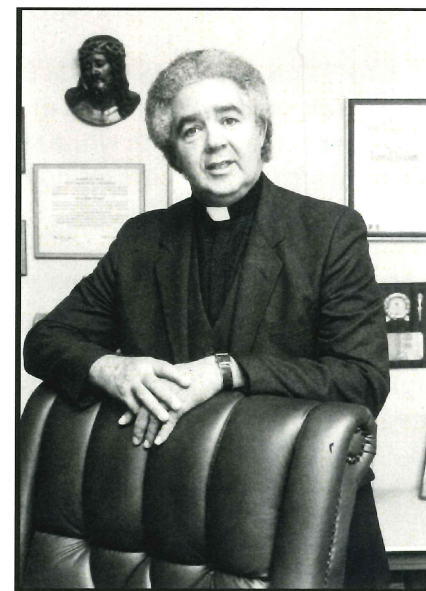


PHOTO I.D.'s (Left-to-Right)

1. Jim at 5 months old
2. Jim at 11 years old
3. Jim as a Boy Scout
4. Teenage years
5. A 4-year old Jim
6. With his older brother, F.A., and mother, Florence Hester Hargett
7. Jim with his dog, Buster, in Greensboro, NC
8. Dudley High School graduation photo, 1948
9. With his father, Rev. F.A. Hargett, Sr.
10. Jim after officiating the marriage of his 2nd daughter, Hester, 2004
11. On the basketball team at Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte
12. Early college years
13. Jim with Frank Stanley, President of the Urban League, on the radio in Los Angeles, working to keep L.A. calm after the assassination of Dr. King
14. With his wife, Louilyn, and their young children, Meloni and Darryl, in Hawaii
15. Jim and Louilyn, Boston, 1954
16. Jim and Louilyn on the JCSU campus, when they first started courting, 1950
17. In the 1970's
18. Los Angeles, 2000
19. Jim and Louilyn arrive in Honolulu with their first child, Meloni, 1955
20. Jim and Louilyn, Honolulu, © 1956
21. Jim and Louilyn still courting, © 2008
22. Jim & Louilyn, San Diego, 1991
23. Jim & Louilyn, Los Angeles
24. Jim & Louilyn, Carlsbad, © 2008
25. The Hargett family with Mayor Tom Bradley in front of Jim's church in Los Angeles (Congregational Church of Christian Fellowship-UCC)
26. With Supervisor Kenneth Hahn, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rev. Larry Odom in Los Angeles
27. In the sanctuary of his church in San Diego (Christian Fellowship Congregational Church-UCC), 1997
28. Jim (2nd row) on the March from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, 1965
29. Attending Board of Trustees meeting, Church of the Crossroads, Honolulu, © 1956
30. Jim's father, Rev. F.A. Hargett, Sr.
31. In his office at Christian Fellowship Congregational Church-UCC, San Diego



REVEREND DR. JAMES HESTER HARGETT: A PASTOR EMERITUS

To many, James Hester Hargett was known as "Jim"; to his early friends, "Hargett"; to relatives, "Dad", "Granddaddy", "Uncle Jim", "Uncle James", "James", "Jim"; to parishioners, "Jim", "Pastor Jim", "Rev. Jim", "Rev. Hargett", "Pastor Hargett", "Dr. Hargett"; and to God, "My son".

On a very hot day -- July 24, 1930 -- in Greensboro, North Carolina, James Hester Hargett was born to Rev. F.A. and Mrs. Florence (Hester) Hargett, Sr. As a child and youth, he was within walking distance of the public schools and the comprehensive Windsor Community Center with an Olympic size swimming pool and many recreational activities. His susceptibility to anything contagious, including Chronic Bronchitis, challenged him at an early age to overcome adversity. These conditions helped him to advance his love of reading, music and extra-curricular activities, which included varsity sports in senior high school and college. Greensboro also proved to be a fertile ground for life-long friendships. Jim was a part of the nucleus of a group of young men, all graduates of Dudley High School, who recognized each other's early intellectual and professional ambitions. They respected and supported each other throughout their lifetimes, creating a bond that could only classify them as an extended family.

James H. Hargett graduated from Johnson C. Smith University, Charlotte, North Carolina, with a B.A. in Political Science (Pre-Law). The combination of Christian nurture, in home and church from birth, to the intellectual stimulation of a scholarly African-American JCSU Professor of Religion and theologian, with a Ph.D from the University of Chicago, focused meaning and brought fulfillment to his faith journey. He could then, in his senior year, respond to the call to full-time Christian service. Jim would later serve on the Board of Trustees of JCSU and, after sixteen years, retire as Trustee-Emeriti.

In 1950, during his junior year at JCSU, Jim met Louilyn Funderburk, an incoming freshman from Lancaster, South Carolina. They would marry in 1954, with Dr. Howard Thurman, Dean of Chapel at Boston University, performing the ceremony.

In the start of his professional career, nothing less than a Master of Divinity degree from Yale University Divinity School, New Haven,

Connecticut, could have made it possible for him to be called as Associate Minister at the Church of the Crossroads, Honolulu, Hawaii, upon graduating in 1955. The predominately Japanese-American, multi-ethnic congregation gave him the experience of what diversity could be like on Mainland, U.S.A., for persons of African-American descent. His immersion in community began with the elected position of Territorial Youth Advisor (Hawaii was not yet a State) for the denomination and he also served as volunteer Chaplain at Oahu Prison in Honolulu.

In 1958, after three years in Hawaii, James H. Hargett accepted a call to The Congregational Church of Christian Fellowship, United Church of Christ, Los Angeles, which was founded as a multi-racial, multi-ethnic church. It became predominately African-American with a strong social action and social justice consciousness, and civil rights advocacy. Responding to community needs, the Church facilitated and enabled in health, education and the arts. Jim served as the Southern Christian Leadership Conference's West Coast Convener, and marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama. He also helped to organize the Poor People's Resurrection City in Washington, D.C. The developments in Church initiated programs and Civil Rights led to a dramatic membership growth in eleven years.

He became Secretary for Black Ministries, United Church of Christ Council for Church and Ministry, New York, New York, in 1969. He challenged African-American young people to consider full-time Christian service, created scholarships for seminary education and documented the existence of churches in transitional communities of racial and ethnic change. He believed these churches could become continuing relevant ministries. He served one of those churches, Livingston Avenue United Church of Christ, in New Brunswick, New Jersey; a historic Evangelical-Reform (German) church. During those three years, Jim was part-time Chaplain at Livingston College (Rutgers University) and Adjunct Professor at Douglas College (Rutgers University). His Doctorate of Ministry from Colgate-Rochester Divinity School was awarded in 1975. He, along with nineteen other multi-denominational African-American ministers, focused studies on tracing the history of the religious experience of African-Americans in Ghana, Nigeria, Haiti, Jamaica and the Sea Islands of Georgia and South Carolina.





The Congregational Church of Park Manor, UCC, Chicago, called James H. Hargett in 1977. While pastoring this large, African-American congregation, he became the first African-American minister on the Board of Directors of the Evangelical Health Systems after seventy-seven years of history and chaired a task force that determined the establishment of health centers on the southside of Chicago. He also served a one-year term as President of the Friends of the Chicago Public Library. His work on the Advisory Board of the Bensonville Home Society, and as one of the founding Board Members of One Church-One Child, further defined his ministry of mission to community and society.

Jim travelled to North Africa, Spain and Portugal with a group to study the history of the Moors. While wrestling with the pain and agony of the African-American experience and pilgrimage, he created liturgical services commemorating events in African-American history from "Blood Row" (the Crossing) and Slavery, to the martyrdom of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., composed of spirituals, scripture and vignettes.

A small Congregation deeply rooted in the United Church of Christ traditions, Christian Fellowship Congregational Church, UCC, San Diego, called James H. Hargett as Minister in 1986. Under his leadership, the Church continued to develop the liturgical services with Jim and to focus on missions, locally and globally. Locally, the vision of a Children's Care Center was adopted by Church and community. Globally, mission trips were taken to southern Africa with the deliverance of a model solar-powered water desalinization machine to drought-stricken Mozambique and resources were provided to Angola for land mine removal. Upon the return from southern Africa, two missionaries were commissioned: a retired pediatrician to Chickore, Zimbabwe and a retired nurse to Lesotho in southern Africa. Back in the U.S., a multi-age group took a mission tour of the six predominately Black colleges established by the American Mission Society immediately after slavery, which resulted in some students attending and graduating from these universities. The adults and youths of the Church initiated a scholarship fund for college-bound youth and began contributions to the endowment funds of the universities. In southeast San Diego, Jim was one of the Consultants, Advisors and founding Developers of the Baker Elementary-UC San Diego Medical School Student Run Free Clinic.