

# Hamilton Park United Methodist Church



March 29, 2024

## News at the Park



Sunday Worship Celebration @ 10:00

Dr. Sheron C. Patterson - Sr. Pastor

**HAMILTON PARK UMC  
PRESENTS THE**

**7 LAST WORDS**  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 29TH**  
**@ 7:00 PM**  
**IN PERSON**

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Rep. Colin Allred  
@RepColinAllred

I congratulate Dr. Patterson on the immense impact of her leadership on Hamilton Park, and our entire North Texas community. From her ministry to her service on my Community Project Funding board and more, she has touched the lives of so many.

## LEGACY OF LOVE

### Dr. Sheron C. Patterson retires from HPUMC



Historymaker, trailblazer, and record-setter, Dr. Sheron C. Patterson will leave a hole in the hearts of Hamilton Park United Methodist Church (HPUMC) and the community as she retires after 35 years of ministry in the United Methodist Church.

Dr. Patterson's three-and-a-half decades of ministry has spanned seven churches, countless speaking engagements, and numerous community events. As a relationship expert, she has been coined across the country as, "The Love Doctor."

Her unwavering dedication, profound wisdom, and unyielding commitment to serving her congregation and the community-at-large have led to many questions of what is next and why retirement now.

"My retirement means that God is good, and God is faithful," said Dr. Patterson,

who is 65 years old. "God called me into ministry in 1981 at Spelman College. I didn't know what would happen. I just walked by faith. And now, after 35 years of ordained ministry in the United Methodist Church, God has said there's an exit sign on the ramp and you can come on out."

Dr. Patterson, who was the first African American female ordained in the North Texas region of the United Methodist Church, has shattered the stained-glass ceiling of the Methodist Church and led other female clergy members in their roles as senior pastors.

"I am honored that I have been a vehicle to help more women soar in the role of a senior pastor. I have been a mentor to many," she said. "When the women approach me, I let them know I only mentor eagles. If you want to be an associate pas-

tor, don't come to me. If you want to be a children's director, those are good, but don't come to me.

"I mentor women who want to be senior pastors of churches. I call it flight school. I teach you how to fly and be the eagle that you are called to be," she explained.

According to a report done in 2020, full-time United Methodist Church clergy were 32% women and 68% men.

"I think that Dr. Patterson is a powerful woman of God, and I continue to have the deepest admiration for who she is," said Pastor Lucretia Facen, who is Senior Pastor of St. Paul UMC. "She's weathered all kinds of storms, dealt with difficult situations, and has come through breast cancer."

Continued

## EVENTS

Facen served as an associate pastor for Dr. Patterson at Jubilee United Methodist Church. She attributes her success as a senior pastor to her mentorship under Dr. Patterson.



Dr. Patterson holding her son, Robert Jr. She and her husband Robert have two adult children, Robert Jr. and Rhynw.

As a 16-year breast cancer survivor, Dr. Patterson has worked with various organizations to increase early detection of breast cancer.

She founded Breast Cancer Builds, which was a nonprofit ministry that brought together survivors of breast cancer to build Habitat for Humanity homes.

“Sheron very openly shared her journey with me about her breast cancer experience.



As a breast cancer survivor, Dr. Sheron Patterson participated in several events for the Celebrating Life Foundation. She helped the organization host its first Prayer Summit at Hamilton Park UMC.



Robert Patterson has been known as the “First Man of Hamilton Park UMC.” Now, he is looking forward to traveling with Dr. Patterson after her retirement. The two have been married for 39 years.

She talked about having a double mastectomy, and reconstructive surgery. It was

inspirational just to hear somebody very openly discuss it, because I hadn’t experienced that previously,” said Linda Lydia, founder of Pink Diamonds Survivors of Cancer, Inc. and also Dr. Patterson’s neighbor for several years.

For the past 10 years, Dr. Patterson has been an on-air relationships contributor on WFAA-TV’s “Good Morning Texas.” She has also authored 10 books and hosted several radio programs.

Keith Solis, Music Director at Smooth R&B 105.7 KRNB, said when he first met Dr. Patterson in the late 1990s, he was expecting to see a mature-looking woman; like “a Maya Angelou figure.”

He was surprised to see a fashionable pastor sporting braids and using slang terminology. The two clicked and went on to become not just colleagues but friends, co-hosting radio programs and several community events.

“I know that whatever she’s going to do next is going to be huge and fabulous because that’s just who she is. She’s broken so many barriers in preaching and pastoring in DFW and around the country,” said Solis, who hosted her retirement celebration at Hamilton Park UMC.

Many of Dr. Patterson’s accomplishments have been out-side of the pulpit. Along with Gladys Lee, an LPGA Certified Teaching Professional, she founded a Black woman’s golf organization, DFW Fairway Divas.

The Dallas-based organization has enhanced the lives of many women with its variety of programs and instructional clinics.

Beyond the walls of the church, Dr. Patterson has been an advocate for social justice, equality, and relationship empowerment. Her courageous stance on

issues such as racial reconciliation, economic justice, and LGBTQ+ rights has made her a source of news articles and magazine stories across the country.

A native of North Carolina, Dr. Patterson is looking forward to traveling and spending time with her husband Robert. She and her husband of 39 years, have two adult children, Robert and Robyn.

“My husband is ecstatic about my retirement. He has gone through everything that I’ve gone through. He’s experienced the joys and he’s experienced the lows. Now, he is like, ‘yeah, you can stop,’” said Dr. Patterson.

Although swimming, golf, and a few book opportunities are in her future, looking back Dr. Patterson admits her years in ministry have not all been easy, “There’s been a lot of haters. A lot of people were just coming for me because I’m a woman. They disrespected me because I’m a woman.

The disrespect hurt, she admitted.

“God is the one who called me, and God is the one who ordained me. God’s the one that put me in those churches and gave me the strength to lead,” she continued. “So, I can’t let a hater pull, or push me out the way. Because I know the Lord is my light and my salvation.”

Undoubtedly, her legacy will endure as a testament to the transformative power of faith, love, and service as a guiding light for generations to come.

Beginning July 2024, Rev. Bryant X. Phelps will be the new senior pastor of HPUMC.

The 33-year-old pastor currently serves as the Senior Pastor of Life Center UMC (formerly Church of the Disciple) in DeSoto

**By Sylvia Powers**  
Texas Metro News

## Men of The Park!

Join us each Sunday Morning at 9 am for Sunday School in Rm 111. We study the Word of God each week from our Echoes Sunday School Book.

All are welcome!



**UPDATE YOUR MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION ON SUNDAY IN THE MAIN FOYER -SEE Mrs. Pat McQuilkin**



### STAY CONNECTED:

- Senior Bible Study - Wednesday @ 10:00 am in the church library.
- Wednesday Night - Faith & Family
- Thursday Prayer -7:00pm - Beverly Galimore (605-475-3200 / Code: 168 199)
- Worship Service - 10:00 am ( in person, Facebook or Website)
- Sunday School - 9:00 am - 9:45 am In Person

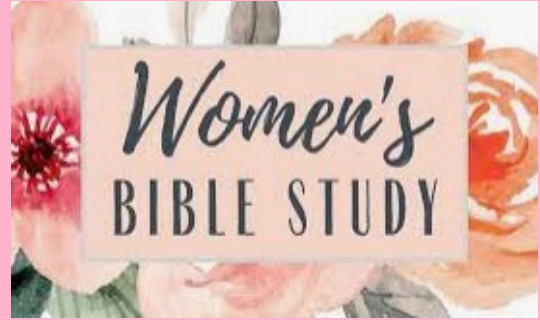
Thank you for participating in **Kroger Community Rewards**. As a result of our participation in this program, Kroger has donated approximately \$500 to *Hamilton Park United Methodist Church*. If you shop at Kroger and have not linked your *Kroger Plus Card* to HPUMC, please follow the steps below.

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**NPO# QU468 - Hamilton Park United Methodist Church**
4. Select the appropriate organization from the list and click "Save".

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Any transactions moving forward using the Shopper's Card number associated with your digital account will be applied to the program, at no added cost to you. Kroger donates annually to participating organizations based on your percentage of spending as it relates to the total spending associated with all participating Kroger Community Rewards organizations.



JASA Bible Study  
Tuesday's @ 7 PM  
Via Zoom

Contact Cleoletta Spann  
for additional information

## College & Career Devotion



Praise and Prayers to the events on Wednesday evenings? These are mostly those who are age 25 and younger who have graduated from our Ignite Youth Ministry. We meet each Wednesday evening from 8:30-9:00pm via zoom. Please contact Kathy via email or text for zoom address.



Andrekia Chandler  
Jody Livingston  
Pam Williams  
Roger & Shirley Bouyer  
Shirley Pleasant  
Herman & Linda Manning  
The Stanley family

The Slatter family  
Mable Hilburn  
Cathy Parker  
James White  
Joan Humphreys  
Kathy Turner  
Caroline Ramos (child)  
The Robertson family  
Geraldine Vine  
Ellen Long  
Shirley Dillard

Shaun Martin (H)  
The Wright-Sanders family  
Celia Reece (Family Death)  
The Robinson family  
The Nash family  
The Booker family  
Fred Marsh  
Herman Edwards & family (Death)  
Lundy family  
The Smith family

This is a prayer request and sick & shut in list (Hospital)

# Mrs. Kelcy Smith - Home Going Celebration

**Wake Restland Funeral Home**  
**Friday, March 29th @ 5:00pm**  
**13005 Greenville Ave**  
**Dallas, TX 75243**  
**Ph. 469 925 1436**



**Funeral is at Hamilton Park United**  
**Methodist Church March 30th @ 11:00am**  
**11881 Schroeder Rd**  
**Dallas, TX 75243**  
**Ph. 972 235 4633**



Kelcy Mae Smith, a cherished pillar of the Hamilton Park community and a beacon of faith and family, passed away peacefully surrounded by her older sister, loving caregivers and family. Born in Pollard, Texas, to Kelcy and Ollie Williams, Kelcy's life was a testament to her unwavering faith and her commitment to serving those around her.

A proud graduate of Emmett Scott High School, Kelcy's journey led her to Tyler, Texas, where she honed her skills in tailoring. It was fate that brought her and Curtis Smith together, and their union was one of love, partnership, and loyalty. They were united in holy matrimony on June 6, 1947. The couple's love blossomed into a family with the birth of their two daughters, marking the beginning of many joyous years filled with love and laughter.

Kelcy's dedication to her community was unmatched. As a long-standing member of the Hamilton Park United Methodist Church, she served with grace and humility, touching lives through her involvement in various ministries and her legendary culinary talents. She was the classroom mother of her daughters and was also a pillar of support for them, as she never missed a football game where they were band majorettes.

Her commitment to service extended to her professional life, where she retired from both the Richardson Independent School District and Texas Instruments, leaving behind a legacy of hard work and dedication.

A queen in her own right, Kelcy was celebrated for her contributions to the church and community, earning her the affectionate title of 'Queen' at Hamilton Park UMC in 2012. She and her husband Curtis were recognized as a Dallas County power couple, a testament to their influence and the love they shared for each other and for those around them.

Kelcy had many passions in her life and did not limit herself to doing just one thing. She loved traveling, gardening, fishing, sewing, quilting, playing dominos, word puzzles, and wearing high fashion with matching hats. Kelcy took tender care of her farm animals and dogs over the years. She loved to cook and bake homemade cuisine that was second to none. Her cakes, pies, cookies, biscuits, cinnamon rolls, tea cakes, waffles and pancakes will forever be remembered.

Kelcy was truly one of a kind, and her memory will be cherished by all who had the privilege of knowing her. As we say goodbye to this remarkable woman, we take comfort in knowing that her spirit lives on in the countless lives she touched.

Kelcy was preceded in death by her parents; husband, Curtis Smith; and brother, Joe Fields.

Kelcy's legacy lives on through her sisters, Ruby Lee Session and Patricia Lions (Humberto Aleman); daughters, Curtis Marie Bass and Melbra Lynn Garvey; granddaughter, Kristia Ju-Vonne Garvey; grandsons, Christopher Earl Thomas (Anne), Gerald Jerome Shelton (Emma), George R. Bass Jr. and Curtis Desmond George Bass (Rebecca); ten great-grandchildren, Taylor Thomas, Kylee Shelton, Jayson Thomas, Aven Shelton, Nicholas Thomas, Sydney Thomas, Jolee Shelton, Skylar Bass, Titus Bass, and Sophia Shelton. She also leaves a host of caregivers, earth angels, grand nieces, grand nephews, cousins, extended family members, and friends to mourn her passing.

