



Celebration of Life

The Reverend Elder Jeri Ann Harvey

MCC Leader and Pioneer

Sunrise January 3, 1934

Sunset May 28, 2008

MCC Toronto

September 13, 2008

The Reverend Elder Jeri Ann Harvey

MCC Leader and Pioneer

OBITUARY

January 3, 1934 - May 28, 2008

Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey was born 3 January 1934 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma (USA). She graduated from high school in 1952 and received her Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Oklahoma in 1961. She served two years with the United States Navy (1952-1954) and was honorably discharged. She studied theology at Oklahoma South Western University.

Prior to the ministry, Rev. Elder Harvey worked as a Medical Technologist and Psychiatric Technician in private clinics and the V.A. Hospital. She also had several articles and poetry published and was recorded as a singer with the Nelson Riddle Orchestra in 1953.

Rev. Elder Jeri Ann was a member of UFMCC since 1972 and was licensed as a minister in Dallas, Texas (USA) in 1975. She was ordained in Denver, Colorado (USA) in 1977 and was elected to the Board of Elders in Los Angeles, California (USA) in 1979. She pastored Christ the King MCC in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Resurrection MCC in Houston, Texas. In April 1978 Rev. Harvey was the first woman elected pastor of the founding church, MCC Los Angeles, which she served until the Summer of 1985 when she was called to be a full-time Evangelist.

Rev. Elder Harvey served the denomination as District Coordinator of the South Central District and as Liaison elder to the Mid-Central and Northeast Districts. She also served on the national board of directors of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, as well as several Los Angeles organizations.

Rev. Elder Jeri Ann was well known in MCC as having a healing touch. She held healing services at MCC's General Conferences which were always well attended. Her last General Conference was in Alberta, Calgary (CAN) in 2005 where her final healing service was packed to the rafters. At that conference, Jeri Ann also served as witness for long-time MCC member Frank Zerilli at his and Franklin's legal wedding.

After leaving the United States, Jeri Ann and her partner, Rev. Elder Gill Storey, moved to Spain where she died 28 May 2008, at home. Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey is survived by her partner, Gill, son Mark and two grandsons, Evan and Zachary.

Celebrating Life
Mother, Lover, Friend

Celebrating Ministry
Pastor, Elder, Activist

❖ Rise in body or spirit

Prelude	For My Mother Mark Gove
Processional ❖	<i>You Are Worthy To Be Praised</i> by Bryron J. Smith MCC Toronto Choir
Welcome	Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes, C.M. Pastor, MCC Toronto
Invocation	Rev. Belva Boone
Congregational Song ❖	<i>How Great Thou Art</i> by Stuart K. Hine
MCC Proclamation	Frank Zerilli
Dedication	First Nation's Ritual Mark Gove
Sermon Interlude	<i>Send in the Clowns</i> Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey
Sharing the Journey	Rev. Delores Berry read by Rev. Candy Holmes Marsha Stevens
Memories, Dreams and Wisdom	Church of the Trinity, MCC read by Rev. Vickie Miller James E. (Bubba) Bruce Jill Marten and Pam Foster Rev. David Farrell Rev. Steve Taylor, read by Rev. Candy Holmes
Special Music from Gill to Jeri	<i>To Where You Are</i> by Richard Marx / Linda Thompson Sam Hockaday and Gay Fritzeimer
Statements	MCC Los Angeles MCC Resurrection Rev. Elder John Gill Elder Larry Rodriguez Glen Payne read by Rev. Jim Merritt

Scripture Reading

Proverbs 31:10-31
Rev. Pat Bumgardner

"A good woman is hard to find, and worth far more than diamonds. Her spouse trusts her without reserve, and never has reason to regret it. Never spiteful, she treats her spouse generously all her life long. She shops around for the best yarns and cottons, and enjoys knitting and sewing. She's like a trading ship that sails to faraway places and brings back exotic surprises. She's up before dawn, preparing breakfast for her family and organizing her day. She looks over a field and buys it, then, with money she's put aside, plants a garden. First thing in the morning, she dresses for work, rolls up her sleeves, eager to get started. She senses the worth of her work, is in no hurry to call it quits for the day. She's skilled in the crafts of home and hearth, diligent in home making. She's quick to assist anyone in need, reaches out to help the poor. She doesn't worry about her family when it snows; their winter clothes are all mended and ready to wear. She makes her own clothing, and dresses in colorful linens and silks. Her spouse is greatly respected when deliberating with the city's leaders. She designs gowns and sells them, brings the sweaters she knits to the dress shops. Her clothes are well-made and elegant, and she always faces tomorrow with a smile. When she speaks she has something worthwhile to say, and she always says it kindly. She keeps an eye on every one in her household, and keeps them all busy and productive. Her children respect and bless her; her spouse joins in with words of praise: "Many women have done wonderful things, but you've outclassed them all!" Charm can mislead and beauty soon fades. The woman to be admired and praised is the woman who lives in the Fear-of-GOD. Give her everything she deserves! Festoon her life with praises!"

Song of Inspiration
with Presentation

In My Life by John Lennon & Paul McCartney
Julie Michels and the MCC Toronto Choir

Reflections

Rev. Elder Troy Perry

Congregational Song ❖

You Are The Voice by David Haas

Celebrating a Legacy
Healer, Evangelist, Pioneer

Statement	MCC Richmond, read by Rev. Jane Nelson
Remembering Jeri's Life	Obituary/Eulogy Rev. Durrell Watkins read by Rev. Candy Holmes
Special Music from Jeri to Gill	<i>You're Still You</i> by Morricone & Thompson Sam Hockaday and Gay Fritzeimer
Scripture Reading	II Corinthians 4:7-10; 16-17 Rev. Paul Fairley <i>"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that it may be made clear, that this extraordinary power belongs to God, and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. . .so we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed every day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure. . ."</i>
Sermon Interlude	<i>Send in the Clowns</i> Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey
Musical Tribute	<i>Total Praise</i> by Richard Smallwood MCC Toronto Choir directed by Rev. Candy Holmes
Reflections	Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson
Communion/Healing Prayers	Rev. Elder Darlene Garner Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes, C.M. Rev. Elder Hong Tan
Prayer for Forgiveness	All: Lord, revive our strength in the struggle for healing and peace. Make of our gluttony for materialism and our thirst that savages Mother Earth a new feeling of justice and of hope. May our meals on an earth divided one day be shared in an earth reunited. Forgive us, now, at this meal, until the whole earth is nourished by your bread. Amen.

A Response to Our Prayer One: Nothing is required but to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God. Forgive yourself as I have forgiven you. Then justice, mercy, and peace will abide with you now and forever more.

Introduction to Communion One: God be with you.
All: And also with you.
One: Lift up your hearts to God.
All: And we lift our hopes to God's favor.
One: Let us give thanks to God.
All: It is a right and good thing to give God our thanks and praise.

Song of Praise
Holy, holy, holy
My heart, my heart adores you.
My life reveals my love for you.
Holy are you, God.

Words of Institution One: We gather here at this table as one people, brought together in remembrance and celebration of the life and ministry of the Rev. Jeri Ann Harvey.
All: We gather here at this table as one people, united by our humanity and common loss, healed and in need of healing.
One: We gather here at this table as one people, remembering and reliving the night that Jesus gathered his friends together at a table to share in what would be his last supper. Men and women, young and old, were there. As the evening was drawing to a close, Jesus lifted and blessed what remained of the bread and cup and passed them among his friends.
One: "I am more than flesh and bone:", says Christ. "I am body, I am me. Take this broken bread and be as me, all of you, and I shall set you free."
One: "I am love and liveliness," says Christ. "I am blood, I am me. Take this outpoured wine and live my life, each of you, and I shall set you free."
All: Today, we are the body and the blood of Christ -- broken, shared, wine and bread. Dreaming, praying, working, joyfully for that day when everyone is healed and everyone is free!
One: Our faith sustains us on the journey, even as with mystery we proclaim:
All: Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ is coming again!

Closing Prayers

Rev. Elder Troy Perry
Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson

Benediction ❖

Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson

Postlude

Seasons of Love by Jonathon Larson
Julie Michels and the MCC Toronto Choir

Reception to follow immediately in the Social Hall.

Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey

A Tribute From Metropolitan Community Churches

The Board of Elders, leaders, pastors, and members of Metropolitan Community Churches mourn the loss of MCC pioneer, pastor and evangelist, Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey. Her preaching and healing ministry touched the lives of tens of thousands. She was a powerful, outspoken, icon; a "Mother Eagle" devoted to the healing ministry of a Risen Jesus Christ.

"For I am not ashamed of the gospel; it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who has faith. . ."Romans 1: 16a

Whereas, Jeri Ann Harvey became a member of Metropolitan Community Churches in 1972; was licensed to the ministry in 1975; was ordained in 1977; was elected District Coordinator of the South Central District in it earliest days; and was elected to the Board of Elders in 1979; and

Whereas Rev. Elder Harvey pastored Christ the King MCC in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Resurrection MCC in Houston, Texas; the Mother Church of MCC, MCC Los Angeles from 1978 to 1985; was on staff at MCC Richmond, Virginia, and a member of Church of the Trinity MCC in Sarasota, Florida; and

Whereas Rev. Elder Harvey ministered full time as an Evangelist for more than twenty years, bringing her preaching and healing ministry to the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom, Australia and New Zealand; and

Whereas Rev. Elder Harvey was a founding Board member of the Human Rights Campaign; was active in civil rights for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people; stood up to the Ku Klux Klan in Texas; fought for the rights of those with HIV/AIDS; was a pioneer in women's rights and other organizations in California; was proud of her heritage as a member of the Cherokee Nation; and fought for Marriage Equality.

Therefore, the people of Metropolitan Community Churches thank God for Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey's authenticity, courage, and devotion to the inclusive Gospel message of Jesus. We give thanks for the millions of miles traveled; the funerals, memorials and weddings performed; the pastors encouraged; the churches lifted up; the parades that were marched in; the rallies spoken at; the politicians challenged; the wounded that were welcomed; the thousands of sermons preached; the hearts, bodies and lives that were healed; the prayers that were answered.

For as the apostle Paul says, *"But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, so that it may be made clear, that this extraordinary power belongs to God, and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted by not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies. . .so we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed every day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure. . ."* 2 Corinthians 4: 7-10; 16-17

So many of us around the world are grateful for her generous, extraordinary capacity for friendship, which we will miss in this life. And we celebrate the blessed assurance of Life Eternal, are confident of the promises of God, and that Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey is now in those heavenly realms with the God she served so well, singing praises around the throne, Amen and Amen.

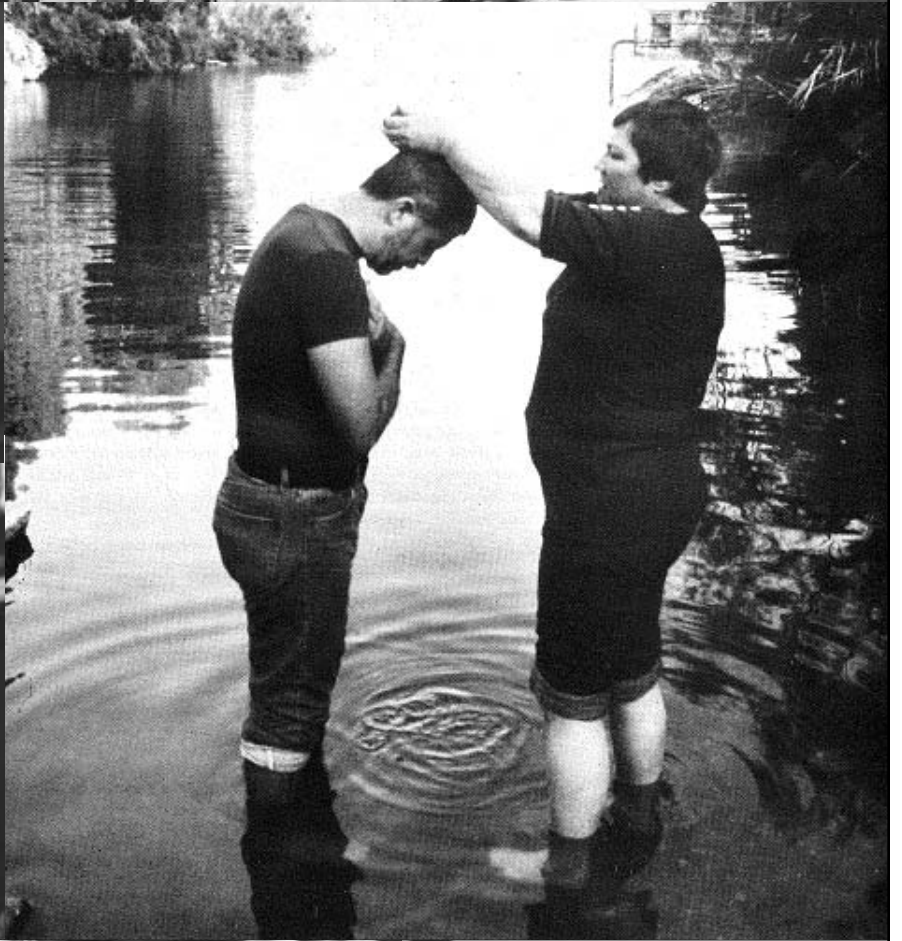
We honor her spouse, Rev. Elder Gill Storey, whose devotion and care for Jeri Ann, with such love and joy, specially in her last days, is a testimony to the world.

Finally, we honor Rev. Elder Jeri Ann Harvey in the words of a hymn often identified with her ministry:

"Because Christ lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives, all fear is gone;
Because I know He holds the future;
And life is worth the living, just because He Lives!"

Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry
Founder and First Moderator

Rev. Elder Nancy L. Wilson
Moderator





Meditation Trail

Dedicated to

Reverend Elder Jeri Ann Harvey

for all your love and healing through the Hallelujah! Ministries

June 15, 2005




With Grateful Hearts

Rev. Elder Gill Storey and her family wish to express their deepest gratitude for your presence, prayers, and all you have done to support her and to make Jeri Ann's memorial so special.

Many thanks to:

MCC Toronto and Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes, C.M.	Pastor
Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson	Moderator of MCC
Rev. Elder Troy Perry	Founder of MCC
Rev. Elder Darlene Garner	Vice-Moderator of MCC
Rev. Elder Diane Fisher	MCC Region 5
Deacon Sandra Millar Rev. Candy Holmes Rev. Paul Fairley	Service Planning Coordinators
Rev. Jim Merritt and Al Leach MCC Richmond and Rev. Dr. Robin Gorsline, Pastor Sam Hockaday	Support to the Rev. Elder Gill Storey
Frank Zerilli	MCC Proclamation
Diane Leah	Music Director
MCC Toronto Choir	Directed by Dan Rudsen Assisted by Mark Guiler & Jonathon Kropf
Kevin Coutu Brian Brenie	Technical Support
Mark Warren	Webcasting
Deacons of MCC Toronto	Ushering and Transportation
Deacon Linda Leenders	Reception Team
Rev. Jo Bell	Multimedia
Melanie Martinez	MCC Web Communications
Suzanne Christie Rev. Robert Griffin & Rev. Durrell Watkins	Order of Service Layout Photo contributions
Robert Dykeman	Travel/Hotel Planning

All memorial service participants and support.