



Bishop Joseph Hosea Johnson

July 24, 1935 - October 22, 2025

Bishop Joseph Hosea Johnson, 90, of Peoria, IL, passed away at 4:49 pm on Wednesday, October 22, 2025, peacefully at his home.

Bishop Johnson was born on July 24, 1935, in Benoit, MS, one of 17 children born to Charlie and Letha Mae (Smith) Johnson. His father died when he was 6 years old, leaving his mother to raise the 17 children alone. At the tender age of 12 he invited the Lord into his life.

At the age of 18 Bishop Johnson relocated to Peoria where he met and married Annie Jo Hunter. From this union came two sons, Joel and Jonathan. His call to a life of ministry came after he joined New Morning Star Missionary Baptist Church. This call led to four years in Chicago for seminary at Chicago Baptist Institute.

Following his return to Peoria, Bishop Johnson was a community worker for the State of Illinois Department of Corrections, working with troubled youth. After eighteen months he became a probation officer. He was promoted to Director of Juvenile Court Services three years later. Bishop Johnson was the first African-American to be appointed to that position and served for 37 years.

His pastoral history with Star of Hope Full Gospel Church, formerly Star of Hope Missionary Baptist Church, began as an interim pastor in October of 1967. He was ordained and installed the permanent pastor in March of 1968, also fulfilling other pastoral duties at the same time for Peoria Christian Church and First United Methodist Church. He participated in the Cursillo Movement for 31 years, having the opportunity to minister at 39 prison sites in Illinois. For over 40 years his ministry reached outside the United States, touching Liberia, Trinidad, and Tobago.

Under his dynamic and life changing leadership, Star of Hope saw countless miracles of salvation, healing, and deliverance take place; he himself being healed from cancer in both lungs after only two years into his pastoral leadership. He served as a role model in

the community and a beacon from within the church.

Bishop Johnson was an extremely loving and giving man. He was the foster father to many young men but also a father in Christ to a multitude of young men and women. Countless people were beneficiaries of his generosity. For example, to assist those in need, he helped in sending 30 students to college and purchased 12 homes and 33 cars for others. Additionally, he donated funds to many local churches and community organizations, including The United Usher Board of Peoria. God has truly used this great man of God to have a very deep, wide, long, and high reach in impacting lives for the Kingdom.

Bishop Johnson leaves to cherish his most precious memory one son, Jonathan "Jon" Johnson, Sr. of Westmont, IL, four additional children whom he loved as his own, Roderick "Rod" Jordan of Peoria, IL, Daniel (Elizabeth) Billberry of Chula Vista, CA, Kenton Young of California and Illinois State Representative Jehan (Derrick) Gordon Booth of Peoria, IL; one brother, Willie Johnson of Greenville, MS; one sister, Bernice Johnson of Detroit, MI; six grandchildren and a host of great grandchildren, foster children, nieces, nephews, other family, his church family and friends who loved him. He is preceded in death by his parents, his son, Joel Johnson, his foster son, Ralph Wrightner Stuckey and 14 siblings.

A visitation will be held at 4 pm until 6 pm on Friday, October 31, 2025 at Star of Hope Full Gospel Church, 417 W. Romeo B. Garrett Ave., Peoria, IL 61605.

Funeral services will be held at 10 am on Saturday, November 1, 2025 at St. Paul Peoria Church with a 1 and a half-hour visitation prior at 8:30 am. Pastor Vance Jordan, Jr. will officiate and Pastor Deveraux Hubbard will bring forth the eulogy. Bishop Johnson will be entombed at Parkview Mausoleum.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to his church, Star of Hope Full Gospel Church.

Simons Mortuary has been entrusted with arrangements. Online condolences may be shared at SimonsMortuary.com.

Cemetery Details

Parkview Mausoleum

2001 N University St
IL 61604
(309) 688-0733

Previous Events

Visitation

OCT **31**. 4:00 PM - 6:00 PM (cst)

Star of Hope Full Gospel Church
417 W. Romeo B. Garrett Avenue
Peoria, IL 61605

Visitation

NOV **1**. 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM (Cst)

St. Paul Peoria
114 W. Forrest Hill Avenue
Peoria, IL 61604

Funeral Service

NOV **1**. 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM (CT)

St. Paul Peoria
114 W. Forrest Hill Avenue
Peoria, IL 61604

Tribute Wall



“ *Simons Mortuary created a Webcast in memory of Bishop Joseph Hosea Johnson*



Simons Mortuary - October 28, 2025 at 03:19 PM



To the family of Bishop Joe Johnson and the Star Of Hope Full Gospel Church, Pastor Johnson will be sorely Missed. I am Happy to know that beyond a shadow of a doubt he Now Rest in the Arms of Our LORD, but on that Great Day Getting Up Morning we Shall See Him Again. Hallelujah and Amen!!! 🙏 Praying the LORD Strength.

RuthBush - November 01, 2025 at 11:49 AM



Bishop Johnson, you will be greatly missed. My condolences to the family. Be blessed 🙏

Calvin Binion - November 02, 2025 at 12:44 PM



“ *Emerald Garden Basket was purchased for the family of Bishop Joseph Hosea Johnson.*



November 08, 2025 at 06:31 AM



“ *4 files added to the album Memories Album*



Simons Mortuary - November 07, 2025 at 12:28 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Memories Album*



Simons Mortuary - November 07, 2025 at 12:28 PM



“ 1 file added to the album *Burial at Parkview Mausoleum*



Simons Mortuary - November 07, 2025 at 12:20 PM



“ *The Gipson Family, Stone Mountain, GA lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



The Gipson Family, Stone Mountain, GA - November 02, 2025 at 11:39 PM



“ *Phyllis lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Phyllis - November 01, 2025 at 01:19 PM



“ *My family and I, give thanks to the Lord for bringing Bishop Johnson into our lives for the past 25 years. His love, generosity and friendship will forever live in our hearts.*

Pastor Errol Bedase - November 01, 2025 at 12:16 PM

LL

“ I'm glad I was able to sit at your house and speak with you when I came for Pastor Brenda Jefferson funeral. I wish you could have made that trip to Atlanta that we talked about. Thank you for your service. Thank you for buying me that expensive suit that I cherished for years. I pray that there are more generals out there like you that stands on the word, by the word, and for the word. Rest well my friend.

Larry Williams "Bro Larry" - November 01, 2025 at 10:12 AM

MB

“ Johnson family: My sincerest condolences



Mildred Baldon - October 31, 2025 at 10:52 PM

DS

“ Debra Standley lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Debra Standley - October 31, 2025 at 07:11 PM

GJ

“ To the family of Bishop Joseph Hosea Johnson. His presence will be missed among you, but he will always remain in your hearts. His caring spirit will remain in the hearts of many. He touched many lives in many different ways. He will always be remembered throughout the community and abroad. May God continue to be with you and strengthen you each waking day. Gail Johnson

Gail Johnson - October 31, 2025 at 11:21 AM

KC

“ Kathy collins lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Kathy collins - October 31, 2025 at 12:54 AM

LB

“ To the Johnson Family and Star of Hope Full Gospel Church thank you for sharing Bishop Johnson's leadership and inspiration with the Evangelical Church of the West Indies in Trinidad and Tobago. Also I am grateful for him assisting with my pastoral installation at First Congregational Church of Lacon. He was in my life for over 60 years.



Linda J Butler - October 30, 2025 at 11:55 PM

YF

“ Your Monday Night Football Family purchased the Basket of Memories for the family of Bishop Joseph Hosea Johnson.



Your Monday Night Football Family - October 30, 2025 at 03:10 PM

RN

“ Rufus and Kim Nelson lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Rufus and Kim Nelson - October 30, 2025 at 12:40 PM

CB

“ An Awesome Man of GOD Has just earned His Wings, Rest in Heavenly Peace, Pastor Johnson May GOD Bless 🙏🙏
And Keep The Family And Friends And Give Them Peace!



Cynthia Barnes - October 30, 2025 at 07:45 AM

RS

“ To the Heavenly Angel who answered God's call and ignited my ministry in Liberia, West Africa—my eternal gratitude goes to Bishop Johnson. His lasting impact in Liberia is a testament to his generous spirit. I am a living proof of his kindness, and many others are as well.



Thanks to his selfless donations, we are spreading the gospel through in-school morning devotions, outreach ministries within and beyond Liberia's borders, radio programs reaching the youth, scholarship opportunities, feeding hungry children, and building a mission school. Bishop Johnson's legacy continues to touch countless lives.

The family of Vera A. Stephens Christian Ministries heartfully extends its deepest condolences on the homegoing of this beautiful soul, whose life was truly well lived. May you find comfort and peace in the Lord during this difficult time.

Rachel Stephens - October 29, 2025 at 11:00 PM

RF

“ Rachel Stephens & Vera A Stephens family purchased the Magnificent Life Spray for the family of Bishop Joseph Hosea Johnson.



Rachel Stephens & Vera A Stephens family - October 29, 2025 at 09:48 PM

DB

“ Deloris Buford lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Deloris Buford - October 29, 2025 at 05:30 PM

SM

“ Siobhan Morris lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Siobhan Morris - October 29, 2025 at 03:23 PM

GA

“ Glenda Allen sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph Johnson



Glenda Allen - October 28, 2025 at 10:23 PM

MB

“ ~Condolences to the family- Mr. & Mrs. Agbara Bryson



Margaret Bryson - October 28, 2025 at 10:44 AM

AT

“ My sincerest condolences to family 🙏🙏🙏
Bishop Johnson has made a HUGE impact on a whole
HEAP of people!!! We love us some him💕. He will truly be
missed ☐☐☐



Antoinette Thornton - October 28, 2025 at 08:30 AM

PH

To the family of the Johnson's I'll be with you. God bless you and thank you for him help raising me. And my brothers and sisters he truly will be missed and he did a lot for people. I don't know how many kids he raised, but he show raised a whole lot of us. That's what made me come back to church with my mother and him, he touched a lot of people and helped a lot of people we truly gonna miss him from the the star of Hope family from Patricia

Patricia Hurt - October 28, 2025 at 10:11 PM

BS

“ Bridgette Stuckey lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Bridgette Stuckey - October 27, 2025 at 11:31 PM

DG

“ My condolences to the family and friends of Bishop Johnson. Thank you for making me part of the family. I love our chats. Rest easy.

Donna Vest Gordon, Fredericksburg, VA

Donna Gordon - October 27, 2025 at 10:41 PM

SR

“ Sharon Robinson lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Sharon Robinson - October 27, 2025 at 10:20 PM

EL

“ Ella Lee lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Ella Lee - October 27, 2025 at 09:54 PM

RF

“ Rena Horton & Family lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Rena Horton & Family - October 27, 2025 at 09:40 PM

CJ

“ Cheryl Johnson lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Cheryl Johnson - October 27, 2025 at 06:37 PM

FP

“ Faye Peters lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Faye Peters - October 27, 2025 at 05:43 PM

BK

“ Belinda Knox lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Belinda Knox - October 27, 2025 at 01:46 PM

PW

“ My condolences 🌸 to the family, friends, and colleagues, of the Bishop Joseph Johnson. I pray your strength and comfort in this difficult time.

I was a former member of Star Hope many, many years ago, he was a loving and compassionate person and friend, he will be missed.

Be blessed in the Lord always.

Prophetess G. Wallace-Swoope

Prophetess G. Wallace-Swoope - October 27, 2025 at 01:01 PM

AJ

“ Angela Johnson-Byrd lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Angela Johnson-Byrd - October 27, 2025 at 11:53 AM

MM

“ Bishop always willing to talk to you and share the hope in Christ.

Melvin M. McAfee - October 27, 2025 at 08:53 AM

DB

“ *Dorothea Banks-Burse sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Dorothea Banks-Burse - October 27, 2025 at 08:02 AM

TA

“ *Thank you for the Baptism and the many blessings that have followed me since. You will be missed. -Tailletha*



Tailletha - October 26, 2025 at 08:22 PM

MP

“ *Mancy Pittman lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Mancy Pittman - October 26, 2025 at 03:18 PM

AM

“ *A McElmurry lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



A McElmurry - October 26, 2025 at 04:50 AM

MH

“ *Rest in heavenly peace Bishop Johnson*



Mendy Hughes - October 25, 2025 at 11:56 PM

PW

“ Heartfelt condolences to the family 🙏❤️🙏



Patricia Ward - October 25, 2025 at 03:27 PM

RW

“ Richard and Theresa Walker lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Richard and Theresa Walker - October 25, 2025 at 12:52 PM

PG

“ Pam Gaston lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Pam Gaston - October 25, 2025 at 09:50 AM

MC

“ It all started with your teachings on 5th street at Star Of Hope Baptist Church and I've been serving and running for the Lord ever since. I can't thank you enough. Rest in Heaven sir. Marvan Cornish



Marvan Cornish - October 25, 2025 at 06:43 AM

KM

“ My Pastor, My Shepherd ❤️ Bishop Joseph Johnson may you rest in peace 🙏 a true man of God. You've prayed healing over me, you've spoken prosperity over my life. I love you. You live on through all of the lives you've touched.



Kayla McGhee - October 25, 2025 at 01:20 AM

RM

“ My heart is heavy at this time, as our Shepherd has passed on to Heaven. He nourished his flock and imparted the true Word of God to each and every one of us. Words cannot adequately express the heartbreak I am experiencing. Bishop Johnson H. Johnson, our Pastor, lived a good life of 90 years. Thank you for your genuine teachings of God, and most of all, thank you for everything you have done for me over the 30 years I have been at Star Of Hope. Well done, Pastor.



Roxanne McGhee - October 25, 2025 at 01:17 AM

AB

“ Angela Bond lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Angela Bond - October 25, 2025 at 12:51 AM

KG

“ Katrina Gillispie lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Katrina Gillispie - October 24, 2025 at 11:02 PM

KA

“ Karen Ashby sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph Johnson



Karen Ashby - October 24, 2025 at 06:38 PM



“ *Bertha Peters lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Bertha Peters - October 24, 2025 at 04:46 PM

SM

“ *Siobhan Morris lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Siobhan Morris - October 24, 2025 at 03:45 PM

MR

“ *Mattie Risby sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Mattie Risby - October 24, 2025 at 11:37 AM

LA

“ *Linda Hardy Avondale Arizona sent a virtual gift in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Linda Hardy Avondale Arizona - October 24, 2025 at 11:25 AM

MS

“ *Mamie Smith lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Mamie Smith - October 24, 2025 at 10:58 AM

RA

“ Renee Adell lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Renee Adell - October 24, 2025 at 10:42 AM

RG

“ Regina Graham lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Regina Graham - October 24, 2025 at 09:44 AM

PH

“ Precious in the sight of the LORD is the death of his saints... Psalm 116:15... Bishop Johnson will be missed, but has earned his entry into heaven.... Thank you JESUS... He to me will always be remembered as my Brother Ralph Peary 's.. Pastor.... And comforted us during and after our pain and sorrow, He remained a pillar to & for our Family & The Community... RIP... 🙏 's going up for The Family.... God Is In Control & knows best... Phillip E Hickman & Family



Phillip E Hickman - October 24, 2025 at 09:38 AM

CK

“ I have so many fond memories of Bishop Johnson, Always smiling cracking a joke every now and then but yet so serious, Watching this man preach the word of God sweat falling from his face so in tune with the Lord, My love for Star of Hope church from singing in the kids choir to camp creation to seeing him anywhere and him always recognizing me as Dolls daughter n a product of the Jones-Albert family and his love for the Jones-Albert family, he will be greatly missed, may he rest peacefully in the arms of our Beloved Heavenly Father until we meet again 🙏🙏🙏



Charla King-Jackson - October 24, 2025 at 09:35 AM

EB

“ *Emel Buckner lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Emel Buckner - October 24, 2025 at 08:21 AM

RB

“ *Ruth Bush lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Ruth Bush - October 24, 2025 at 03:13 AM

KM

“ *To Joe and John and the Star of Hope Family. My prayers and condolences go out to you. Bishop Johnson was my father in the gospel I was first ordained under his leadership he has always had a special place in my life.*
Kim Moore(OConner)

Kim Moore - October 23, 2025 at 11:40 PM

AL

“ *Annette Lucy lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson*



Annette Lucy - October 23, 2025 at 09:51 PM

WW

“ *Prior to my getting married in 1977, my cousin Rev Johnson counseled us. He imparted many words of wisdom to us. He told us to keep God in the middle and everything else will work out. 48 years later we're still at it. Walt & Gloria Williams.*



Walter Williams - October 23, 2025 at 08:25 PM

VD

“ So sorry to hear of the passing of Pastor Joe Johnson. He was very supportive of young people and helped our community in so many great ways. To his sons and kids he has raised may God give you ya peace and comfort knowing he has lived a great and rewarding life!
Love

Michelle Jones Douglas



V Michelle Douglas - October 23, 2025 at 08:01 PM

RA

“ Renee Adell lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Renee Adell - October 23, 2025 at 07:55 PM

MR

“ Minister ROSLYN lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Minister ROSLYN - October 23, 2025 at 07:19 PM

PW

“ To the family of the late Pastor Johnson. Please know that our thoughts and prayers are with you. We thank the Lord for his generous and unselfish care and contribute to his community as well as to people afar off.

Pastor Eddie & Lady Irish Washington - October 23, 2025 at 06:56 PM

RA

“ Renee Adell lit a candle in memory of Joseph Johnson



Renee Adell - October 23, 2025 at 06:51 PM