

A CELEBRATION OF LIFE

Patricia LaVerne Mobley Wallace

sunrise

JULY 7, 1946

sunset

JUNE 29, 2025



July 18, 2025

Viewing: 10:00 am
Funeral: 11:30 am

ALFRED STREET BAPTIST CHURCH

301 South Alfred Street, Alexandria, VA 22314

Officiant: Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley, Senior Pastor

On Sunday, June 29, 2025, Patricia LaVerne Mobley Wallace—our beloved wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, and friend—departed her earthly body for her heavenly home.

Affectionately known as “Pat” to friends and “Vernie” to family, she was born in Greensboro, NC on July 7, 1946, to Elsie Wells Mobley and William Mobley. Pat was the fourth of seven children.

She received her early education through Guilford County Public Schools and graduated from James B. Dudley High School in 1964. At Dudley, Pat and her sisters formed the ‘Antoinettes’ singing group, lending their voices to countless memories, and forever reminding others that music—and sisters—could uplift the spirit. Her invitation to an Alpha Kappa Alpha (AKA) cotillion in her senior year was life changing as she won a scholarship at the cotillion that allowed her to attend college. Armed with a scholarship, she majored in Engineering Mathematics and minored in Physics at North Carolina Agricultural & Technical University. She also pledged AKA and became Miss North Carolina A&T - all while working multiple part-time jobs to support her dreams.

During her second year at A&T, she met her lifelong partner, Alton “Al” Wallace. Al and Pat married in February of 1969 and moved to the DC metropolitan area as Al had been stationed at Ft. Belvoir, VA. From this union, they had two beautiful girls, Kimberly and Jennifer, both born in Washington, DC. Though Pat had a promising career in software engineering, she prioritized the family and chose to stay home with each of the girls during their first year of life – a decision that spoke volumes about the kind of mother she was: bold when needed, but always tender.

Pat’s professional legacy is equally impressive. She broke barriers at Teledyne Labs, helped found IKONIX, and spent 35 years at TRW (later Northrop Grumman) contributing to software for national defense. Her trajectory—from software engineer to Engineering Center Manager—was marked by accolades like the Black Engineer Award and TRW’s Women of Achievement. These honors were rare for a Black woman in her era. She also founded and led TRW’s Black Employees Advisory Committee and organized its Black History celebrations, proving that leadership can be both pioneering and inclusive.

Grounded in faith, Pat was raised in the Seventh Day Adventist Church. In 1983, she and Al joined Alfred Street Baptist Church, where she embraced community and service among her church family. Pat was ordained as a deacon in 1999 and served for 24 years. She also served as Chair, becoming only the second female to do so. During her time as a member of Alfred Street Baptist Church, Pat served on many committees and in many positions. Some notable

positions she held at ASBC include Director and leader of the Girls Scouts for over 10 years, Chair of the Pastor’s Anniversary and the church Bicentennial Committee, Core Member of Brother’s Keeper Outreach program, pre-marital trainer/counselor with Al (counseling over 50 couples), and the Chair of the Thanksgiving Basket Project for over 20 years. In the past decade she has participated on the Alfred Street Baptist Church Foundation, and as of most recent served as the President. She spent many late nights reviewing applications, sending emails to her committee, and writing the annual report. This group was a love of hers as it was a passion of hers to ensure people attend college despite not having the means or resources.

In the midst of gathering all these great experiences, Pat did incur multiple health challenges. In college, an illness left her completely deaf in one ear and partially deaf in the other. In the 2000s, she battled breast cancer twice. Despite her disability and health challenges, she was a resilient woman who relied on her faith and family to overcome these battles. However, in 2024, she was diagnosed with endometrial cancer. In her final year, she fought with courage and grace.

Pat was known for her love for numbers, Sudoku, her due diligence, organization, Excel spreadsheets, gentle leadership, event planning, her collard greens, and infamous sweet potato casserole. She was dedicated to her family, church, and ensured she uplifted people whenever and wherever she could.

We mourn her tender presence in our lives and give thanks for the gifts she shared: her unwavering faith, her radiant service, and her steadfast love. We already miss her and are thankful God allowed her in all of our lives. We love you, Pat, Mommy, Grammie, and Vernie.

She is survived by her husband of 56 years, Dr. Alton S. Wallace of Fort Washington; daughters Kimberly Atkinson (Ron) of Upper Marlboro and Jennifer Wallace of Washington, DC. She also leaves two handsome grandsons, Ethan and Ellis Atkinson; two sisters, Evelyn Liggins (June-deceased) of Greensboro, NC, Sharon Banks (Walter, Sr.) of Greensboro, NC; two brothers, Lester Mobley of Greensboro, NC and William Mobley, Jr. of Columbia, SC; a host of nieces and nephews, close relatives, and dear friends.



ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude	Instrumentalist
Invocation	Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley
Hymn of Rejoicing: "Because He Lives"	
Old Testament, Psalm 41	Rev. Dr. Charnika Hayes
New Testament, Romans 8: 28–39	Deacon Russell Easter
Epistle, 1 Thessalonians 4: 13–18.....	Deacon Lawrence Clark
Prayer of Comfort	Rev. Dr. Judy Fentress-Williams
Musical Selection: "I Love The Lord"	
Acknowledgements.....	Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley
Tributes/Reflections	Deacon Erin Payne
	Deacon Patricia Johnson
	Deacon James "Pop" Garrett
	Deacon Alton Wallace
Musical Selection: "If I Can Help Somebody"	
Eulogy.....	Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley
Closing Prayer and Benediction.....	Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley
Recessional: "Goin' Up Yonder"	







Remembering Deacon Patricia Wallace:

A TRIBUTE FROM THE CHAIR OF THE DIACONATE

Good morning, Church Family,

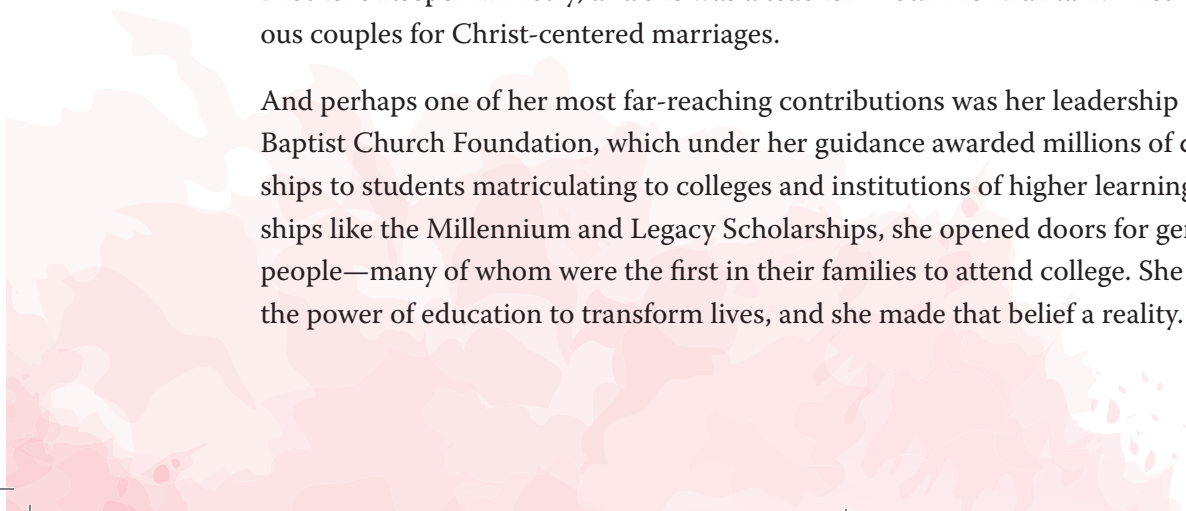
Regrettably, I am unable to be with you in person today due to pre-scheduled travel that I could not change but please know my heart is very much present as we honor the life and legacy of our beloved Deacon Patricia Wallace, who served faithfully and humbly as a Deacon at Alfred Street Baptist Church. She joined our church in 1983 and over the next 40 years became a pivotal pillar of our historic congregation. With an illustrious nearly 222-year church history, through her decades of service, Deacon Wallace carried our legacy with grace, honoring our past while diligently helping to shape our future.

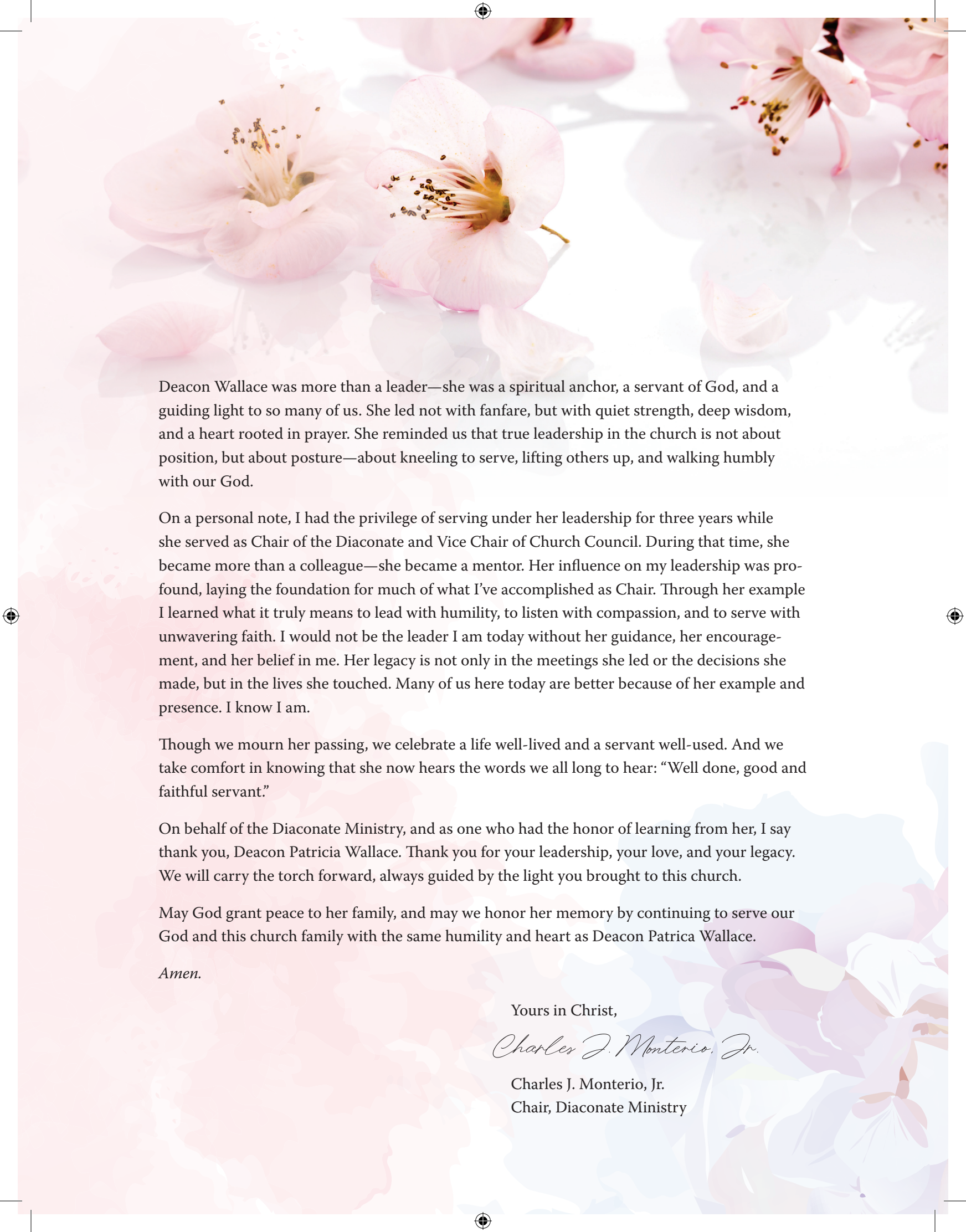
Her decades-long service was broad and deep. She served as a Deacon from 1999 until her passing and was the second woman ever to serve as Chair of the Diaconate. She also served as Vice Chair of the Pulpit Committee that prayerfully selected Rev. Dr. Howard-John Wesley as our 8th pastor—a decision that has blessed our church for almost two decades.

One of her greatest mission legacies is Thanksgiving Baskets Outreach. What began decades ago as a small effort in the multipurpose room—where she led discipleship groups in organizing meals to serve hundreds—grew into a massive, community-wide initiative. Through her vision and tireless commitment, the effort expanded to larger facilities like the Lee Center, where it now serves thousands of families across the DMV and the country. Her heart for service fed both body and soul, and her impact will continue to be felt every holiday season and beyond.

She also served as Director of the Girl Scouts Ministry from 1985 to 1999, shaping the lives of countless young girls with faith, confidence, and leadership. She was the epitome of leadership. She served as the Chair of the ASBC Bicentennial Committee, helping us honor 200 years of God's faithfulness. She led with excellence as Lay Leader of both the Wedding Ministry and the Brother's Keeper Ministry, and she was a teacher in our Pre-Marital Ministry, preparing numerous couples for Christ-centered marriages.

And perhaps one of her most far-reaching contributions was her leadership of the Alfred Street Baptist Church Foundation, which under her guidance awarded millions of dollars in scholarships to students matriculating to colleges and institutions of higher learning. Through scholarships like the Millennium and Legacy Scholarships, she opened doors for generations of young people—many of whom were the first in their families to attend college. She believed deeply in the power of education to transform lives, and she made that belief a reality.





Deacon Wallace was more than a leader—she was a spiritual anchor, a servant of God, and a guiding light to so many of us. She led not with fanfare, but with quiet strength, deep wisdom, and a heart rooted in prayer. She reminded us that true leadership in the church is not about position, but about posture—about kneeling to serve, lifting others up, and walking humbly with our God.

On a personal note, I had the privilege of serving under her leadership for three years while she served as Chair of the Diaconate and Vice Chair of Church Council. During that time, she became more than a colleague—she became a mentor. Her influence on my leadership was profound, laying the foundation for much of what I’ve accomplished as Chair. Through her example I learned what it truly means to lead with humility, to listen with compassion, and to serve with unwavering faith. I would not be the leader I am today without her guidance, her encouragement, and her belief in me. Her legacy is not only in the meetings she led or the decisions she made, but in the lives she touched. Many of us here today are better because of her example and presence. I know I am.

Though we mourn her passing, we celebrate a life well-lived and a servant well-used. And we take comfort in knowing that she now hears the words we all long to hear: “Well done, good and faithful servant.”

On behalf of the Diaconate Ministry, and as one who had the honor of learning from her, I say thank you, Deacon Patricia Wallace. Thank you for your leadership, your love, and your legacy. We will carry the torch forward, always guided by the light you brought to this church.

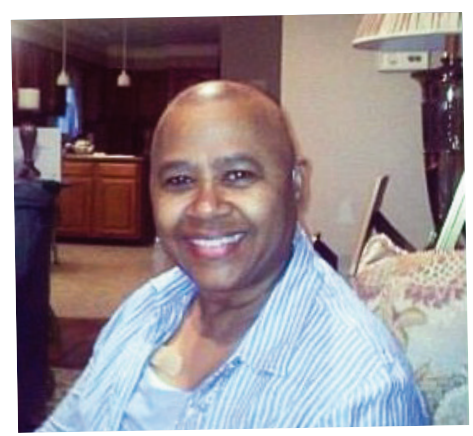
May God grant peace to her family, and may we honor her memory by continuing to serve our God and this church family with the same humility and heart as Deacon Patricia Wallace.

Amen.

Yours in Christ,

Charles J. Monterio, Jr.

Charles J. Monterio, Jr.
Chair, Diaconate Ministry





Acknowledgments

The family of Patricia L. Wallace would like to express our sincere appreciation for the acts of love shown to us during this difficult time. With deep gratitude, we thank our dear friends, family, and church members for the love and support you've shown Pat and Al, especially these past two months—through prayers, meals, rides to dialysis, visits, and care at home. Your compassion has been a living demonstration of Christ's love in our lives. Your kindness has been a true blessing and a comforting witness to the hope promised in His Word. May the Lord richly bless and comfort you all for your faithful care.



Pallbearers

Ron Atkinson, Jr.
Walter Banks, Jr.
Keith Foskey
Rodney Garrett
Erik Jones
James Matthews

Flower bearers

Pat's former Girl Scouts



Interment

3:00 PM
Trinity Garden Cemetery
3221 Mattawoman Beantown Rd.
Waldorf, MD 20601

Service Entrusted

Pope Funeral Home
5538 Marlboro Pike
Forestville, MD 20747

