

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
PROCLAMATION

**Whereas:** Rev. Joe N. Whitt daily walked his journey of faith with God and shared with all his love for our Savior, for family and the church family at Trinity Presbyterian Church.

**Whereas:** Rev. Joe N. Whitt was a true Christian, possessing a genuine love and compassion for others. He was called by God to preach the gospel that mankind doth not live by bread alone. He opened our eyes, filled our hearts, and touched our souls, to appreciate the goodness and graciousness of God.

**Whereas:** Rev. Joe N. Whitt spread the Word of God, like leaves where they most abound and then fall and spread like a blanket on the ground. In the churches he preached and the congregations he served, Rev. Whitt saturated his sermons with the word of God which never becomes old. He taught all the words of the Bible are strong, living words, and the images and inspirations are like flowers of elegance.

**Whereas:** Rev. Joe N. Whitt was happily married to his lovely wife Diana for 41 years. They have three children: two daughters Nina (Oliver), Blackman, Tamara Whitt, son, Brandon Whitt and 5 grandchildren. He was an old jazz enthusiast, a devoted fan of the Cleveland Browns and a believer in the goodness of people. His compassion and caring touched many lives encouraging them to seek a relationship with our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**Whereas:** Rev. Joe N. Whitt is a child of God, and this is a homegoing for Rev. Whitt to be with our Lord and Savior. Jesus Christ came in the calm of the night and called Rev. Whitt home to be with God.

**Whereas:** Be it resolved in love, with the congregation of Trinity Presbyterian Church that Rev. Whitt has passed from this life into the heavenly kingdom, we, the members, express our concern and care for the family.

The Bible is a window into this prison of hope, through which we look into eternity. ~Dwight

**Therefore:** By the cited authority vested in me as Moderator, I hereby request these proceedings be spread upon the official record of Trinity Presbyterian Church and the Presbytery of the Miami Valley of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) with a copy of this proclamation to be presented to the family.

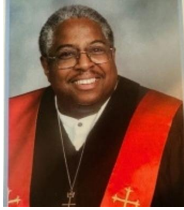
Given under our hands this day, June 14, 2025

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Ruling Elder Marjorie Morgan, Moderator

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Ruling Elder Mary Jean Blackmon, Clerk of Session  
Trinity Presbyterian Church  
Dayton, Ohio



## Reverend Joe Nathan Whitt

1947-2025

Joe Nathan Whitt was born on April 24, 1947, in Cleveland, Ohio to the late Joseph and Emma Lee Whitt. Joe was the second oldest of four children, his sister Sheila Reid preceded him in death. He accepted Christ at an early age at Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church in Cleveland, OH.

Joe or "Rev" as he was fondly referred to by many, graduated from John Adams High School in Cleveland, OH in 1965. He began his career at General Electric where he worked for 16 years. Joe attended Cuyahoga Community College in Cleveland, OH receiving his associate degree in liberal arts in 1973. After receiving his call into the ministry, he attended Cleveland State University receiving his Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy in 1989. He then attended Ashland University and received his Master of Divinity in 1992.

Reverend Joe Whitt was ordained at East View United Church of Christ in Shaker Heights, OH in 1992. His pastoral journey began as Interim Pastor at New Church Start in Euclid, OH in 1992. In 1994, Reverend Whitt was installed as Pastor of Mt. Olive United Church of Christ in Trotwood, OH. He pastored this church until the congregation merged with Believers Christian Fellowship Church in Dayton, Ohio. In 2019, Reverend Whitt accepted the interim Pastorate at Trinity Presbyterian Church where he pastored until he was called home to be with the Lord.

In 1967, he married Gloria Creel. To this union, two children were born: Nina and Tamara. On January 21, 1984, he married his loving wife of 41 years, Diana Chapelle Gorden. One son was brought into this union, Brandon. This began a wonderfully unified family.

First and foremost, he enjoyed making people laugh, socializing and entertaining his family and friends. At a young age Joe was his older brother's mouthpiece; David said, "Joe knew how to beg our parents to get whatever we wanted, especially from our father." Marnette will never forget all the money she made from Joe practicing his hand dance moves. Joe was known as a class clown, always sharing jokes. He was just a child at heart always finding new adventures. One of Joe and Diana's favorite pass times was travelling. They had yearly trips to Gatlinburg for almost 20 years. They explored the world visiting Italy, Spain, Portugal and Greece just to name a few. He had the opportunity to travel with the United Church of Christ to the Holy Land. He loved surprising Diana with gifts, ordering sometime up to six cans of Garrett's popcorn and keeping his tradition of the twelve days of Christmas even if the gifts came in January.

Joe gave his children so many great memories that were truly special. Nina's fondest memory is sharing the many activities and experiences that she did with her father that she now shares with her family. Tamara will always remember spending magical Christmas mornings, as they all wake up together to share surprises, opening presents and enjoying each other's company filled with laughter and love. Brandon will always cherish when he and his father start to share their special moments together bonding over their favorite cigars and connecting through deep conversation. His love and unwavering support for all his grandchildren was extraordinary.

Reverend Joe Whitt was called home to be with the Lord, Monday June 2, 2025. He leaves to cherish his loving memory, his devoted wife Diana, one brother David (Jacqueline) of Atlanta, GA; one sister Marnette of Bedford, OH; three children, Nina (Oliver) of Cleveland, OH, Tamara of Honolulu, HI and Brandon of Cleveland, OH; five grandchildren Jaylen, Cameron, Dedan, OJivia and Adonis; one sister-in-law, Irish Gude, a host of nieces, nephews, God children, and a multitude of close friends.