

Maxine Allen*

Photographic Essay



James Costen preaches his Senior Sermon, Johnson C. Smith Seminary (then in Charlotte, North Carolina), 1955.

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A mischievous ten year-old contemplates his next financial venture.



Johnson C. Smith Gospel Team, April 1955 (left to right): Clarence Lennon, James Costen, Franklin D. Wilson, James Hampton and Orval Black.

James H. Costen and Melva Wilson became husband and wife. May 1953. Johnson C. Smith University Church. The couple's ceremony occurred on Baccalaureate afternoon the year of their graduation from college when the chapel would be fully decorated. The Seminary Dean, Arthur H. George, conducted the wedding with Ms. Anne Hawkins, the Dean of Women, serving as Director of the wedding.



Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity probationary group, Winter, 1950, Costen (second from right).



During his first pastoral appointment, Rocky Mount, NC, Jim, Melva, Ms. Sellars and Mr. Miller (left to right) enjoy a church reception.



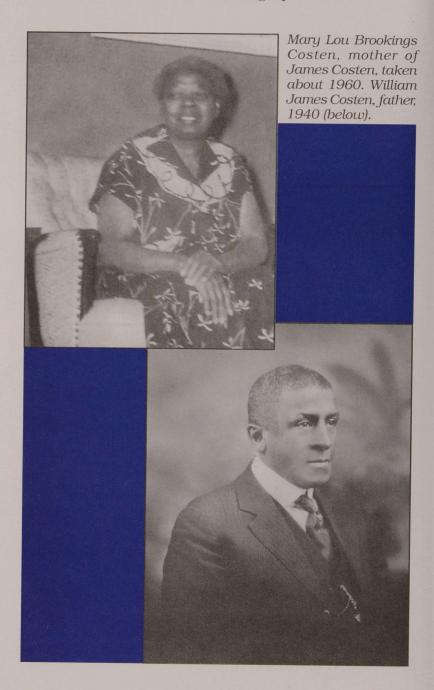
Jim (standing, extreme left) with a young Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., (seated, left) following a rally at which King spoke, gathered at the home of Rev. George Dudley, pastor, Liberty Baptist Church, Rocky Mount, NC. Melva Costen (third from right).



Always a fancier of fine automobiles, Jim admires older brother William's new Oldsmobile 88 in front of the family home in Omaha.



During his tenure at Calvin Church, Omaha, Dr. Costen (left) shares the worship experience with his mentors, Dr. Charles Tyler (right) and Rev. William Johnson (center). Photo courtesy Wilda Stephenson, Omaha.





Johnson C. Smith College freshman class, 1949. Costen (second row, second from left). Eva McPhearson Clayton, Congresswoman, North Carolina (first row, second from right).



During the ITC Convocation, Fall 1975, the deans of the ITC constituent seminaries gather in front of the school sign. Left to right: The Very Reverend Quinland R. Gordon, Absalom Jones Episcopal Seminary; Rev. Oliver J. Haney, C.H. Mason Seminary; Dr. Alvin L. Dopson, Phillips School of Theology; Dr. Costen, Johnson C. Smith Seminary; Dr. Harry V. Richardson, founder and President of ITC; Dr. Bobby Joe Saucer, Morehouse School of Religion; Dr. Cecil Wayne Cone, Turner Seminary; Dr. Charles J. Sargent, Director of Development; Dr. Major J. Jones, Gammon Seminary.



Elected Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (USA) in 1982, Costen is escorted during investiture by proud wife, Melva. Photo courtesy A.D. Publications, Inc., New York.



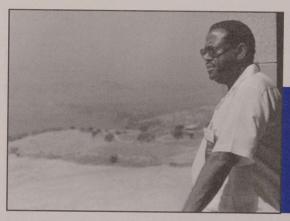
During their sabbatical in 1991, the Costens are in Africa representing the Presbyterian Church (USA) and ITC. The Costens (left) are with missionaries in Blantyre, Malawi and Rev. and Mrs. Silas Ncozana (right of Costen) of the Presbyterian Church of Malawi, East Africa.

During lighter moments of a 1970 African study tour, Costen dances with church representatives. Dr. Thelma Adair, former ITC Board Member, is third from right.





In 1994, Rev. John Gatu received an honorary degree from ITC. He was Moderator, Presbyterian Church, East Africa. Here, Costen and Dr. David L. Wallace bid farewell to the Gatus at Atlanta's Hartsfield Airport.



During a 1990 conference to Israel, Dr. Costen looks over the Golan Heights.







With Israeli tour guide, the Costens visit Lazarus' tomb.

THE INAUGURAL CONVOCATION: A CELEBRATION SISTERS CHAPEL, SPELMAN COLLEGE - 3:00 p.m. John W. Waters, Presiding

ORGAN PRELUDE

Improvisation on Afro-American Melodies Joyce Finch Johnson

**PROCESSIONAL

"Crown Imperial" W. Walton Joyce Finch Johnson

*THE INVOCATION Charles Judson Child, Jr.

SCRIPTURE READING

William B. Meekins, Ir. Carolyn L. McCrary Old Testament-Ezekiel 34:1-12 New Testament-I Timothy 6:11-19

*HYMN OF CELEBRATION

"Once to Every Man and Nation"

James Russell Lowell Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide, In the strife of truth with falsehood, For the good or evil side; Some great cause, God's new Messiah, Offering each the bloom or blight; And the choice goes by forever, Twixt that darkness and that light.

Then to side with truth is noble, When we share her wretched crust, Ere her cause bring fame and profit, And 'tis prosperous to be just; Then it is the brave man chooses, While the coward stands aside, Till the multitude make virtue, Of the faith they had denied.

Though the cause of evil prosper, Yet 'tis truth alone is strong: Though her portion be the scaffold, And upon the throne be wrong: Yet that scaffold sways the future, And, behind the dim unknown Standeth God within the shadow, Keeping watch above His own.

> WELCOME Joseph C. Coles, Jr.

ANTHEM

"Shout Joyfully To God" (based on Psalm 66) Melva W. Costen The ITC Chorus

GREETINGS

Thomas I. Pugh Earl F. Dabney Charles Merideth 1. Oscar McCloud



SOLO "O, Divine Redeemer" Arr. Hall Johnson Cynthia Clarey-Gardner

RECOGNITION OF OFFICIAL REPRESENTATIVES John H. Adams

THE ACT OF INAUGURATION

Presentation of President - Frank T. Wilson The Investiture - John H. Adams Presentation of the Presidential Medallion - Emmanuel L. McCall Charge to the President - Harry V. Richardson Charge to the Seminary Community - Thomas W. Gillespie

> SOLO "Ride On, King Jesus" Cynthia Clarey-Gardner Arr. Hall Johnson

INAUGURAL ADDRESS

James H. Costen "Black Theological Education: Its Context, Content, and Conduct'

> INAUGURAL PRAYER J. Randolph Taylor

*SCHOOL SONG

"Struggling, Ever Marching Onward"

Ernest Augcomfar, Lyrics Melva W. Costen, Music Struggling, ever marching onward,

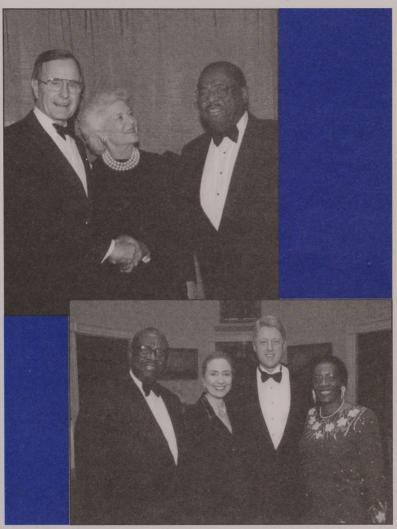
Stalwart faith and ceaseless prayer For through Christ our lives are guided, At an Institution rare, Just as Christ, our humble Shepherd, Bore a cross to set us free Now we share it with many nations: Ever onward, ITC

Staff, administration, leaders, All support and lend a hand, For we know that we are family, And ingrafted in God's plan. Ever onward, reaching upward, Adding knowledge, growing strong, ITC. God's Institution: To ourselves and Thee belong.

At Dr. Costen's Inaugural Convocation, ITC administration building was renamed in honor of Dr. Harry V. Richardson. Dr. Harry and Mrs. Selma Richardson (right).



U.S. President William "Bill" Clinton honors the Presidents of the Historically Black Colleges and Universities at a black-tie dinner in Washington, March 1996. Costen (fifth from the right).



Dr. Costen visited the White House on several occasions. Top, with U.S. President George Bush and First Lady Barbara Bush, March 1989. Lower, Jim and Melva with U.S. President William "Bill" Clinton and First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton, January 1996. Courtesy White House Photographs.

ITC Charter Day Banquet, 1992 (right to left): Juanita Baranco (Mistress of Ceremony), Billye Aaron (banquet speaker), Melva and James Costen, Helen Robson Walton (recipient of Outstanding Community Service Award), and Joseph Gaston (Dean, Johnson C. Smith Seminary).





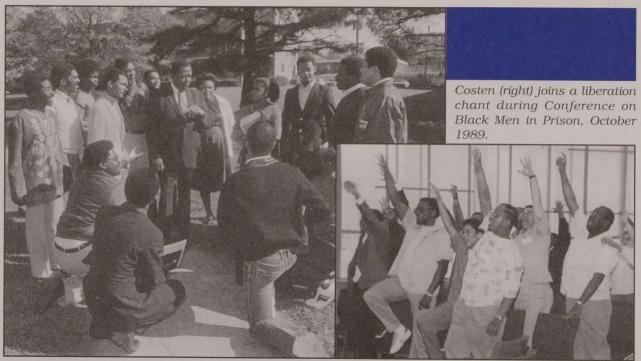
Dr. Helmar Nielsen (left) presents Dr. Costen with a check to establish the Helmar Emil Nielsen Chair of Music and Worship, July 4, 1985.

ITC Commencement, 1985 (left to right) President Costen, Dr. Allen A. Boesak (South African antiapartheid leader), Dr. Harry Richardson, Bishop John Hurst Adams.

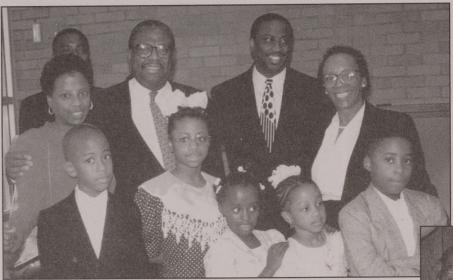




The "Big Six" basketball team, Morris Brown Charity Basketball Game, December 17, 1986. From left, Rev. Timothy McDonald (First Iconium Baptist Church), Rev. Charles Scott, Bishop Cornelius Henderson (Florida Annual Conference, United Methodist Church), Rev. Andrew Young (former Atlanta Mayor and Ambassador to United Nations), Rev. Charles Stovall (Dallas, TX), and Dr. James Costen. Photo courtesy Harmon Perry.



James Costen (center) takes a break with students on campus, Spring 1985.







Dr. Costen is presented the 1992 Congress of National Black Churches Award by Virginia Governor L. Douglas Wilder (left) and Earl Graves, Editor, Black Enterprise.



Jean Paul Aristide, President of Haiti (center) and members of the Haitian government with James and Melva Costen.



Ribbon cutting ceremony for the Atlanta University Center Olympic Promenade, April 1996. Costen (second from left). Photograph courtesy of Mary Smalley, Atlanta University Center, Inc.



Ground breaking for James H. Costen Lifelong Education Center, June 1993. Costen (third from right).

