



YOUR DESTINY IS HERE INC

LINDA J. IVEY MINISTRIES
GREATER IS COMING

DESTINY – COVID RELIEF



How are you feeling about coming out of the quarantine?

There are lessons to be learned in everything we experience in life. As we walk in our destinies, we will have many persecutions and misfortunes that will test our faith. They will cause us to question if we really believe that God, who is our redeemer and our deliverer, loves us. I pray we pass these tests.

The covid-19 pandemic has definitely been one of our most challenging trials. This last year and a half has been trying, and difficult, yet interesting for all of us. Most of us have never had to deal with separation, isolation, and seclusion at this level. We experienced feelings of fear, anxiety, depression, and sadness. During those troubling days, I hope you found safety and security in God. I hope He provided you peace in the midst of all the turmoil as you made it through to the other side.

While the world is beginning to see the light at the end of the tunnel, we will still have to continue to deal with the aftermath of covid-19, much like the flu, but with greater understanding than when it first appeared.

With the creation and distribution of the vaccine, many states and places of business are lifting restrictions that were placed by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) at the start of this pandemic. One of the new guidelines is that the newly vaccinated no longer have to wear a mask. Do you agree with this new guideline, and do you have faith that the non-vaccinated people will be truthful and wear masks? While people have been talking about going back to normal for months, is it really possible to return to our pre-covid lives? How will our “new normal” look? How will we apply everything we just went through since the outbreak?

Along with taking advice from the CDC and other experts, what is our role in being vigilant and diligent to keep ourselves and our families healthy and safe? How does that look to you? The answers to these questions require prayer and coordination within our families and with our friends.

As you pray about your next steps, I hope you gain a greater understanding about God as He gives you discernment on how to navigate through the different communications and advice you'll receive through many media channels. May we all learn to “*trust in the Lord with all our hearts, and lean not on our own understanding. In all our ways acknowledging God, and He will direct our paths*”. Psalm 3:5-6

WALKING IN DESTINY SCRIPTURES – THE PASSION TRANSLATIONS



Set your gaze on the path before you. With fixed purpose, looking straight ahead, ignore life's distractions. Proverbs 4:25

We have become His poetry, a re-created people that will fulfill the destiny He has given each of us, for we are joined to Jesus, the Anointed One. Even before we were born, God planned in advance our destiny and the good works we would do to fulfill it! Ephesians 2:10

Never doubt God's mighty power to work in you and accomplish all this. He will achieve infinitely more than your greatest request, your most unbelievable dream, and exceed your wildest imagination! He will outdo them all, for His miraculous power constantly energizes you. Ephesians 3:20

DESTINY SPOTLIGHT



Minister Carolyn Crawford-Dixon

*This month's Destiny Spotlight is on Your Destiny is Here Advisory Board Member, **Minister Carolyn Crawford-Dixon**. Minister Crawford-Dixon is a retired Child Protection Social Work Supervisor and Trainer formerly with the Department of Human Services' Children and Youth Services. She is also a retired Adjunct Professor formerly with Lancaster Bible College at the Center for Urban Theological Studies here in Philadelphia. The following is our interview with Minister Carolyn Crawford-Dixon.*

Destiny to me is having faith in what's meant to happen, which requires patience and diligence; my two best traits.

Being conscious of God's creation and observing it brings me joy. For example, I love visiting Tobago or other islands with beautiful white, sandy beaches and turquoise waters; where the skies appear so close you could almost touch them - so beautiful. One time I was in Utah working. I happened to turn around and saw mountains so close and so breathtaking. The universe is full of so many amazing creations by our Creator, if we would only take the time to explore them. Whether I'm knitting, crocheting, playing games, people watching or watching television, sitting near a pool, or laying on a beach relaxing, these are all things I enjoy doing.

Even though I didn't see it, my previous pastor saw me as a minister; and I have been serving God at Polite Temple Baptist Church for over thirty-five years. I have been helping as the right hand to my current Pastor, the Reverend Bernadine Waterman. For the past five years, Pastor Waterman and I have been focusing on strengthening Politics' ministries as we change lives. As Christians, it's our righteousness that leads us to eternal life. What the world needs now, #1 - is love. Love, respect, and peace. It's showing respect for our fellow man which will result in peace. That's what will make a difference in this world. Once there are more opportunities for *everyone* to have what they need, there won't be a need to take things from others; than we will get rid of the guns.

I started college later in life and in addition to my classes and homework assignments, I was still expected to work my full-time job, and take care of my family and household duties. My life's events resulted in my working in Child Protective Services, helping others by protecting children and assisting families who were in crisis. It all started with my work as a secretary at a senior center. While there, Madelyn Noel, who later became one of my mentors, suggested I pursue my bachelor's degree in the Social Work Administration track, which would become a new career ladder for me. She guided me and helped me fill out the applications. Alvin Echols, the Executive Director where I worked as a secretary, allowed me to take classes during my lunch hour and during my breaks.

I later became a Social Worker II - doing child abuse investigations and child safety assessments. I had some anxiety when entering people's homes to do investigations. When I knocked on doors, I would start praying. I would always try to be encouraging to the families. Even though we were not supposed to bring up religion while working, there were many occasions I would minister and pray with the parents.

I continued with my education to receive my masters' degree in Social Work and became a Child Protective Social Work Supervisor overseeing other Child Protective Social Workers. Eventually my skill and knowledge earned me an exclusive assignment with the department's training team, where I carried the responsibility to train, qualify and approve newly hired social workers to become Child Protective Social Workers for the Department of Human Services and the City of Philadelphia.

To anyone who is discouraged, I would say be encouraged. Don't let negativity hold you back. Look on the positive side of things. My life's destiny pushed me to become a college graduate earning both a bachelor's and master's degree; to become an Adjunct College Professor who taught social work, a Church Administrator and eventually a licensed minister. Determine your destiny and where you want to go. Work toward your goals and trust in the Lord during your journey. I know God will open doors for you just as He did for me.

CALL TO ACTION

TIME FOR ANOTHER CHECK-IN

This month's call to action is a *Check-In with Family And Friends* about their feelings on the covid-19 quarantine being lifted.

As mentioned in the message for this month, there are questions we need to ask ourselves, which are also questions we can pose to others – those we consider our sounding boards and trusted confidants. Our older family members or elders we know have been a bit more traumatized than others due to the pandemic. Our younger family members who may think they are immune to the virus and to those we know who think the whole thing is just a hoax by the government.



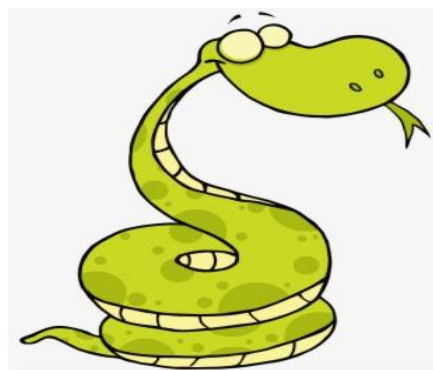
Here are four suggested questions to begin the dialogue to gain a better understanding, and to build stronger and better relationships with each other.

1. How are you feeling about the covid-19 restrictions being lifted and businesses opening back up?
2. What do you think about the advice that vaccinated persons no longer have to wear masks, and only non-vaccinated people will still wear them? Do you think non-vaccinated people will be truthful?
3. People are looking to go back to their normal, pre-covid-19 life; what does that look like for you? How should we ensure we don't forget everything we just went through?
4. What are some steps you can take to fulfill your duty to yourself and your family to be vigilant and diligent about keeping healthy and safe?



TRIVIA QUESTION

Why do snakes stick out their tongues?



ACCOUNTABILITY FOCUS

1. Gun Violence - As of June 30, 2021, there have been 271 homicides in the city of Philadelphia.

What will it take to curb the gun violence in the city? Talking about the problem provides awareness but does not necessarily help stop it. There are many programs in the city that address the different issues stemming from the violence. We list a couple below. Consider volunteering to become a part of the solution.

- ▶ Mayor Kenney's Administration says gun violence is a complicated and complex problem. In order for the City to effectively address and stop gun violence, his administration's *Roadmap to Safer Communities* program coordinates public, private, nonprofit, and community partners to end gun violence. These programs, initiatives, and interventions work in concert with each other to help the communities and individuals affected by gun violence, as well as directly interact with those perpetuating it. Read more here: <https://www.phila.gov/2021-04-14-how-the-city-is-addressing-gun-violence-2021-update-to-the-roadmap-to-safer-communities/>



- ▶ After news of a 10-year-old fatally shooting himself after finding a loaded gun at home, an important reminder: Any Philadelphian can request a free gun lock at any time from the "Safe Bet" program. In an effort to prevent unintentional shootings, Temple University Hospital's *Safe Bet* program offers free cable gun locks — no questions asked — to Philadelphia families who have small children and firearms. To find out the location of the next community gun lock giveaway, please check Temple Safety Net's [Upcoming Events](#) page. You can also **[REQUEST A GUN LOCK HERE!](#)**

- ▶ Another Violence Program in Philadelphia is *Mothers In Charge*. They are a violence prevention, education and intervention-based organization. Mothers, grandmothers, aunts and sisters of trauma victims come together to offer counseling and grief support for families that have lost loved ones to violence. They also work with elected officials and community organizations to create safe neighborhoods and communities in Philadelphia. They advocate and support youth, young adults, families and communities affected by violence. Call 215-228-1718 for support and service information, or visit their website, mothersincharge.org.



2. Eye on Voter Legislation

This summer, Governor Wolf will veto an attempt by PA Republicans to make voting harder, but the fight is unlikely to end there. Reach out to your representatives to let them know how you feel about restricting voter rights. Call, email or write a letter. Click here to find out who your representatives are:

<https://www.philadelphiavotes.com/en/voters/elected-officials>.



And if you haven't yet, don't forget to register to vote. Not sure if you're registered? Check here: <https://www.usa.gov/confirm-voter-registration>



JUST FOR FUN

"For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains,
but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others."

Nelson Mandela

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AUTHORITY
CHOICE
CLAIM
CONFIDENCE
DECISIVE
DELIVERANCE
EQUALITY
EQUITY
FLEX
FREEDOM
INDEPENDENCE
JUSTICE
LIBERATION
LIBERTY
MIGHT
POWER
RESOURCEFUL
RIGHTEOUSNESS
SPACE



RESOURCES (In Philadelphia and the surrounding areas)

At the time of the newsletter distribution, the following resources were operational.
We advise you to call before visiting to ensure the resources you are interested in are still in service.

Please share the following resources with friends, family, and within your social and ministry circles.
And feel free to post on your personal and church bulletin boards;
these resources could help someone in need.

COVID RELIEF

Philadelphians whose loved ones died from covid can receive FEMA aid to cover funeral expenses, up to \$9,000 per person lost. Call 844-684-6333 to apply.

COVID-19 VACCINES



- Everyone 12 years of age and older is now eligible to get a covid-19 vaccination. Register at vaccines.gov. or call 1-800-232-0233 for more information.
- Black Doctors covid-19 Consortium is administering covid-19 Vaccines. Register at www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com. They can also be contacted by phone, 484-270-6200 or email: info@blackdoctorsconsortium.com.
- Check in with your local pharmacy (Rite Aid, Walgreen, CVS, etc). Many of them are giving vaccine shots.
- In the city of Philadelphia, you can register on the [city's vaccine interest form](#), which will enable the city to contact you once it's your turn to receive the vaccine. People without internet access can call the city's hotline at 215-685-5488 to get on the list.
- Help combat vaccine hesitancy and myths about vaccines by sharing your vaccine experience using #GotMyShotPA on social media.

COVID-19 TESTING

- Many pharmacies are providing testing. You can check with your local pharmacy or go to: <https://www.phila.gov/covid-testing-sites/>
- Also, the Black Doctors Consortium continues to do testing. Visit their website for a weekly schedule of locations and dates: www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com. They can also be contacted by phone, 484-270-6200 or email: info@blackdoctorsconsortium.com.
- **Murrell Dobbins High School**, 2150 Lehigh Ave., Phila., PA 19132, 267-436-3126. **Test For All Tuesdays** - Free Covid-19 testing on Tuesdays for all residents. No appointments required, walk-ups welcome. 11:00 am to 1:00 pm.



FOOD RESOURCES

To find locations near you, click here: [food assistance resources near you](#).

1. **Monday starting at 12:30PM - New Journey Christian Center**, 1001 E. Cheltenham, Philadelphia PA. 19138, 267-331-8761 or 267-440-7499
2. **Tuesday mornings, starting at 9:30 – 10:30 am: Einstein Healthcare Network and Philabundance** provide a weekly produce market where fresh fruits and vegetables are distributed at no cost. At the corner of 11th Street @W. Clarkson Street. Philadelphia, PA, 19141, on the Einstein Medical Center Philadelphia campus.
3. **Fresh For All Wednesdays – Distribution begins at 12:30 pm** until supplies run out. This weekly produce stand is free to all and runs weather dependent. Location is outside of **the Greater Enon Missionary Baptist Church**, 1854 N. 22nd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19121; 215-765-3135. Operated by Philabundance.
4. **Every Wednesday @ 2 pm – First Baptist Church – Crestmont** | Drive or walk thru | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. | 1678 Fairview Ave, Willow Grove, PA 19090 | 215-243-0300
5. **Every Friday @ 2 pm – Providence Baptist Church of Germantown**
87 E. Haines Street, Philadelphia, PA 19144 | 215-844-0954
6. **Every Friday @ 2 pm – Chosen 300-West Philadelphia** | Drive or walk thru | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. | 3959 Lancaster Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19104 | 215-243-0300
7. **Every Friday @ 3 pm – First Millcreek Baptist Church** | Drive or walk thru
641 N. Preston St., Philadelphia, PA 19104 | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. 215-243-0300
8. **Every Friday @ 3:30 pm – Christ Haven Worship Center** | Drive or walk thru | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries | 6800 Lindbergh Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19142 | 215-243-0300
9. **Every Saturday @ 9 am – Ambler Church of the Brethren** | Drive or walk thru | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. | 351 E. Butler Ave., Ambler PA 19002 | 215-243-0300

10. **Every Saturday @ 10 am – First AME Church – Sharon Hill** | Drive or walk thru
1201 Hook Road, Sharon Hill, PA 19079 | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. 215-243-0300
 11. **Every Saturday @ 12 pm – Zion Baptist Church - Reading** | Drive or walk thru | Sponsored by
Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. | 224 Washington Street, Reading, PA 19601 | 215-243-0300
 12. **Saturdays at 1 pm**, until supplies last, free groceries are distributed at **New Covenant Church of Philadelphia**, 7500 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19119.
 13. **Every Saturday @ 2 pm – Love Zion Baptist Church** | Drive or walk thru
2521 N. 23rd Street, Philadelphia, PA 19132 | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. 215-243-0300
 14. **Every 3rd Saturday** of the month at 1:30 pm until supplies are gone. **Christ Center C.O.G.**, 1615-19 W. Cheltenham Avenue, Phila., PA 19126 | 215-548-7483
 15. **Catholic Social Services, Archdiocese of Philadelphia**, offers Covid-19 Emergency Food and Diapers. Go to <https://cssphiladelphia.org/covid-19-emergency-food-diapers/> to find a location near you. Please call service center ahead of time to schedule an appointment if applicable and to ensure availability of resources. 267-331-2490
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FOR THE CHILDREN



▪ The Free Library of Philadelphia | Summer Reading Program

The Free Library of Philadelphia has kicked off its annual *Summer Of Wonder Reading Experience*. The virtual program will run through August 31. “Whether students have been learning virtually or in-person over the past year, it is especially vital this summer for students to stay engaged and ready to start the next school year by combatting learning loss,” said Leslie M. Walker, Interim Director of the Free Library of Philadelphia.

Children, teens, and adults can sign up online **here** to collect points and earn badges for Summer of Wonder activities and time spent reading. Information on summer reading programs is also available at the many neighborhood libraries that are open for in-person services. Go **here** to find out which services are available at your nearby branch.

Summer of Wonder and Science in the Summer will also be hosting virtual events throughout the summer, while some neighborhood libraries will be hosting outdoor events and story times. A full list of library events is available **here**. For more information on summer programs with the Free Library visit **here** or text 66746, and start the body of the text with keyword *askfree* then a space, followed by your question.

- **PhillyConnect** seeks to build stronger and safer communities and promote lifelong gains for youth facing high-level charges by using a six to nine month Family & Team-Based Approach: Mentorship, Individualized Goal Plans, Intensive Engagement, Education & Employment, and Asset-Based Youth Development. Contact **267-773-5967** or www.phillyconnect.net. Their holistic program provides rigorous interventions to help youth develop accountability, future-oriented planning, emotional self-regulation, and skills to navigate through life challenges.
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FITNESS



- **Spiritual** -Prayer Pause for Philadelphia | July 5th & 19th - 5:30 pm to 6:00 pm
First and third Monday of each month
For those who find grounding and hope in faith and spirituality, join the **Office of Public Engagement's Director of Faith-Based & Interfaith Affairs**, Rev. Naomi Washington-Leapheart, on Facebook Live. This unprecedented moment in history is an invitation to be encouraged through prayer and meditation.

- **Pilates Classes** | Mondays from 5:30 pm to 6:30 pm through October 11th | Schuylkill Yards
Mondays from 5:30pm to 6:30pm join **Schuylkill Yards** for FREE low-impact, high-energy **Pilates classes** taught by students from Drexel University's Pilates Program. **Advance registration required.*

[Register Here](#)

- **Free Outdoor Yoga** | Every other Wednesday from July 7th through September 22nd, 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm
The Woodlands 4000 Woodland Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19104
Head to **The Woodlands** where Ars Nova Workshop, The Woodlands, and Spirits Up! will host a series of **free outdoor yoga** and mindfulness sessions paired with live music. All ages welcome.
Pre-registration required **[REGISTER HERE](#)**

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Philadelphia is hiring firefighters; [here's what you need to know](#).
The application and exam period runs through Oct. 1. [Phila.gov]



DID YOU KNOW?



Philly's Plastic Bag Ban, approved in 2019 but delayed by the pandemic, [will go into effect on July 1](#). Businesses will get a 9-month grace period before penalties begin. To assist businesses through this transition, the City is providing a variety of resources, all of which are available on a new webpage at phila.gov/plastic-bag-ban.

Let's Talk Safety - July 10, 2021 3:00 PM to 4:00 PM

Fire Commissioner Adam Thiel hosts a monthly talk show on WURD-900AM. The show's goal is to share information about fire prevention and life safety with listeners across the Philadelphia region.



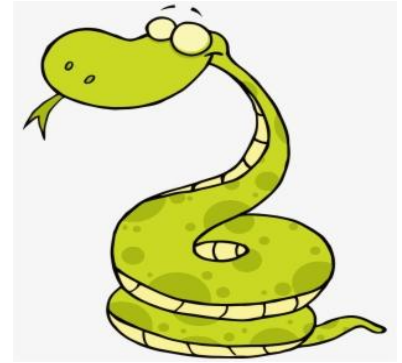
Your Destiny is Here, Inc. is providing resource information as a public service for persons in need. While we try to keep the information timely and accurate, we make no guarantees. Services provided by listed organizations and businesses are the sole responsibility of the organization or business.



TRIVIA QUESTION ANSWER

Why do snakes stick out their tongues? TO SMELL.

To compensate for their poor eyesight and limited hearing, most snakes have an excellent sense of smell. Although snakes have nostrils, they also use their tongues to pick up the scent of nearby prey or predators.



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