



YOUR DESTINY IS HERE INC

LINDA J. IVEY MINISTRIES
GREATER IS COMING

DESTINY – MOTHERHOOD



This month we celebrate Mother's Day and all of us have one whether they're our biological mother, adoptive mother, or a mother figure. As the first person who cared for us, our mother's calming, loving touch soothed our demeanor, created our temperament, guided our personality, and shaped our confidence in ourselves, others and our world. We thank God for her attributes of being loving, caring, nurturing, patient, good-natured, and our most important role model.

Motherhood is a role many embrace willingly, while others hold loosely or abandon. Motherhood is not for the faint of heart because children need A LOT of time and attention to help build their self-esteem and character. Therefore, remember to celebrate the many aunties, godmothers, grandmothers, cousins, mentors, and family friends who did not bear children yet stood in the gap as mothers. They are sacred because they accepted the mantle to help care and nurture us in the right direction.

If you were blessed to have a mother's love in your life, someone who put your needs ahead of her own and ushered you from newborn to adulthood, then appreciate the God given characteristics He placed in that very special woman. You've already proved you were worth it, now go back and thank her.

WALKING IN DESTINY SCRIPTURES



Nevertheless, **in the Lord** woman is not independent of man nor man of woman; for as woman was made from man, so man is now born of woman. And all things are from God. *1 Corinthians 11:11-12*

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." *Joshua 1:9*

Blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord. *Luke 1:45*

Strength and honor are her clothing, and she shall rejoice in time to come. *Proverbs 31:25*

She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. *Proverbs 31:26*

She considers a field and buys it; with the fruit of her hands she plants a vineyard. She dresses herself with strength and makes her arms strong. *Proverbs 31:16-17*

God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved; God will help her when morning dawns. *Psalms 46:5*

DESTINY SPOTLIGHT



Sylvia
Ford-George

This month's Destiny Spotlight is on Your Destiny is Here Advisory Board Member Ms. Sylvia Ford-George. Sylvia is the lead over YDH Fundraising to support financial stipends. She is also a board member for the Family Reunion Institute. Her spotlight is a nod to Mother's Day.

Destiny is something that happens to us. My destiny is being a mom, it's who I am at my core. Despite, my "profession" as a Project Coordinator, Webmaster, Family Reunion Enthusiast, and an Entrepreneur, being a mom is my most valuable assignment.

Destiny and motherhood are alike because you don't always know what's in store for you or how things will turn out. As a young girl I didn't know when it would happen, but I knew I wanted to be a mother. While, I always wanted multiple children, I only had one wonderful son, Michael. I didn't know how to "plan" for having a child or motherhood, but once Michael was born, I made him my priority, by doing everything I could to ensure he would become an amazing young man. Unfortunately, just as it seemed Michael was coming into his own, developing a strong Christian walk, with good friends, and a good job, he passed away. Michael reached his destiny, but I was left to try to figure out my destiny, since there was nothing more for me to do with or for my Michael.

After Michael passed, I remember waking up to the announcement it was National Mother & Sons' Day. I started to fall apart thinking I would never be able to celebrate *that day* again. Then I heard the Holy Spirit say, "*Michael will always be your son.*" I began to feel grateful for the time we had together, rather than feeling embittered by thinking of the days spent apart. Hearing from God, remembering how much Michael loved the Lord and that he was in a better place, empowered me to celebrate National Mother & Sons' day that year.

To all those who have lost a child, when it comes to Mother's Day, lean on your faith and trust in God. Allow God to redirect your focus in order to cherish and enjoy the time you had with your child. Appreciate how they are now in a place higher than what this world has to offer and are spending eternity with their heavenly Father who will love them far better than we ever could love them.

Mothers understand, the journey of motherhood is always evolving. While an infant's needs are more demanding than when they become older, there's still lots of nurturing, teaching, training, and loving that's needed. Mothering is having our end results produce self-sufficient young adults.

Motherhood and raising children is filled with obstacles. Our careers can be obstacles if they keep us away too long. Our children's friends can be obstacles if our children are followers and have never learned right from wrong, or to think for themselves. Divorce can be an obstacle when we as parents use our children as points of contention. Motherhood means being diligent, ready to meet each problem head-on, and finding the best paths that overcome all difficulties. It ain't always pretty, convenient, or easy, but as a mom, it's our destiny to get it done.

Maybe you haven't realized your destiny. You may try to run and hide from it, ignore it, or try to change it. However, your destiny will happen—no matter what. We need to be prepared so we can enjoy it. The choices we make on our journey's path is something we can control and will help us no matter what comes our way. Our journey will have crossroads filled with bumps, and bruises, happiness, joy, and eventually fulfillment. We decide the kind of person we will become, the type of life we want to enjoy, and how Christlike we want to live. Our decisions will influence how helpful we'll be to our families, friends, and mankind.

Finally, to young mothers, I advise you to give your children your time, energy, and love. Teach them to be respectful of others by your demonstrating respect towards them. Talk with your children as well as playing with them. Scold them when necessary and *don't spare the rod* but do no harm. Enjoy them and don't waste time because childhood goes by so quickly. Happy Mother's Day.

CALL TO ACTION

FORGIVE THE PERSON WHO HURT YOU; (THEY DON'T DESERVE YOUR TIME, ENERGY, OR POWER)

Last month we talked about forgiving ourselves for past mistakes. This month we're address forgiving people who hurt you.

Forgiveness is healing, whether we are forgiving ourselves or someone else.

It may seem easy, acceptable, reasonable, or right to hold on to a grudge you have towards someone. They hurt your feelings, or disrespected you, or may have done you wrong. How dare they! It seems right that you have hard feelings toward them.

However, for our own benefit, we need to recognize that walking around in unforgiveness is like carrying a weight. And the longer you carry it and the more you think or talk about it, the heavier it gets.

It is a misconception to believe that if you forgive someone you are giving them something or doing something for them. Forgiveness really works in your favor – it frees you from carrying the weight of harboring ill feelings and ill will towards someone who probably already forgot what you are upset about. Forgiveness releases you from using your energy and your time on someone else.

Once you've decided to forgive someone, forgiveness can happen in several ways. You can pray to God and forgive the person. You can speak your forgiveness out loud to yourself. You can call the person or write them a letter **but if you do**, be merciful. Don't talk about or belabor the reason why again. Be prepared to stand in forgiveness even if the grace you are putting out is not returned.

Finally, if necessary, let the person go. Not everyone we know was meant to be in our lives forever. Some relationships are seasonal, some people come into our lives because there are lessons we have to learn. Pray and ask for discernment about the relationship, and follow where the Holy Spirit leads. Let's stand on and follow as the word directs, "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you". *Colossians 3:13*



TRIVIA QUESTION - *What is the hardest rock?*



ACCOUNTABILITY FOCUS

A lot is happening in our world today that is disheartening. Some of it is overt and out in the open, some continues to be kept secret and hidden. How do we fix what's broken and how do we get it to end? Who do we hold accountable? At the very least, we don't close our eyes. We stay focused on the problem and work towards a solution. Here are a few issues we need to stay woke on.

1. **Domestic Violence** - There are too many women who are dealing with controlling, manipulative, behavior of boyfriends or husbands. No one should have to live in fear of being beaten up or possibly killed by someone who is suppose to love them. Many people want to blame the women for staying, but there are so many facets to these situations and the blame is in the wrong place. Who should be held accountable? You, if your way of controlling your woman is by restraining her, beating her, threatening her, or isolating her. You're wrong, and you need help. Women, get to know a person before you become so involved with



them you can't get out without harm. He may be cute and charming, but there can also be a dark side that you need to be aware of before you're in too deep. The end of domestic violence starts with individuals exhibiting self control. James 1:19 says to be 'quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger'. We are not here to control others but to control ourselves.

There are several programs in the city that help people involved with domestic violence. Courdea (formerly Menergy) is a counseling program for abusive partners. For more information go to www.courdea.org or call 215-242-2235.

If you are a woman, Women Against Abuse has some resources for you. Call 866-723-3014 or go to: <https://www.womenagainstabuse.org/get-help/resources>.

2. **Child Abuse** - There are far too many children dealing with neglect and abuse. If you suspect (you do not have to prove - but through conversations with or observation of a child you suspect child abuse) abuse or neglect you can report it 24 hours a day, seven days a week at 215-683-6100. You may also call the state hotline at 800-932-0313. You may choose whether or not to give your name when reporting. Regardless, your name will never be revealed to anyone else. This practice is strictly enforced.



3. Social Change

Senator Art Haywood is hosting a five-week series of live, interactive workshops on Tuesdays from 6-7 PM; they began April 27th. These workshops are designed to give neighbors tools to advocate for themselves; to understand the roles of each level of government and to learn how to create social change. Partners include Arcadia University, the Committee of Seventy, Draw the Lines PA, Fair Districts PA, and the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania. **The remaining dates are May 4th, May 11th, May 18th, May 25th; 6 - 7 pm.** Register at SenatorHaywood.com/HaywoodAcademy.



4. Finally, one way to deal with these situations is by voting and advocating for laws to either be upheld or changed. **May 3rd is the last day to register to vote in the primary or update your voter registration.** Click on the following link for a voter's guide from [The Philadelphia Citizen](#) for more information. **our brand new voter guide**



If you need some musical motivation to take action, check out this link, <https://youtu.be/3ZPusIeehQo>.

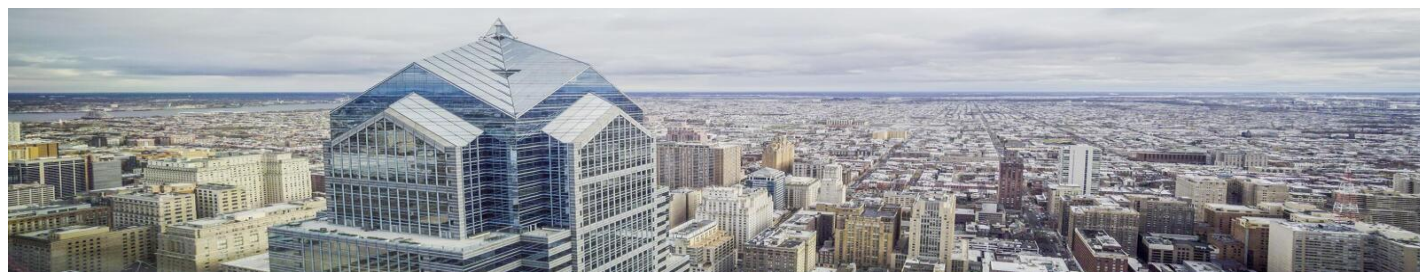


JUST FOR FUN

Kalil Gibran said, "Mother: the most beautiful word on the lips of mankind." See if you can find the words that describe mothers.

U	N	C	O	N	D	I	T	I	O	N	A	L
L	A	P	O	S	I	T	I	V	E	B	A	O
C	L	C	A	U	Y	N	N	U	F	U	G	V
A	U	L	Y	P	P	A	H	C	G	V	K	E
R	F	O	R	P	F	O	E	H	D	N	I	K
I	H	S	E	O	D	O	T	I	N	G	N	S
N	T	E	L	R	R	E	S	P	E	C	T	S
G	U	H	B	T	R	S	F	I	E	R	C	E
N	R	E	I	I	O	X	T	W	A	R	M	L
I	T	V	X	V	D	A	R	R	A	D	S	F
V	N	A	E	E	P	T	S	C	O	X	U	L
O	I	R	L	S	E	R	I	P	S	N	I	E
L	K	B	F	O	R	G	I	V	I	N	G	S

LOVING
 CARING
 KIND
 UNCONDITIONAL
 LOVE
 HUG
 LAUGHTER
 RESPECT
 FUNNY
 STRONG
 SUPPORTIVE
 FORGIVING
 FIERCE
 WARM
 BRAVE
 TRUTHFUL
 FLEXIBLE
 POSITIVE
 INSPIRES
 CLOSE
 DOTING
 SELFLESS
 HAPPY



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.

Also post them 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 VACCINE

In Philadelphia, the vaccine is available to all Philadelphia residents 16 and older.



- **Get an appointment** or visit the **Convention Center** or **Esperanza** walk-up sites. Go to <https://www.phila.gov/2021-04-20-sign-up-for-your-covid-19-vaccine-appointment-here/> for additional information.
- 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.
- **Black Doctors Covid-19 Consortium** is administering Covid-19 Vaccines for Philadelphia residents only. Register at www.blackdoctorsconsortium.com. They can also be contacted by phone, 484-270-6200 or email: info@blackdoctorsconsortium.com.

COVID-19 TESTING

1. Many pharmacies are providing testing. You can check with your local pharmacy or go to: <https://www.phila.gov/covid-testing-sites/>
2. 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.
3. **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.
4. **New Journey Christian Center** - Testing every Monday. 1001 E. Chelton, Philadelphia PA. 19138 (enter on Ardleigh Street side of church)
5. **Sayre Health Center** (in partnership with Penn Medicine)
Testing Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1 to 3:30 p.m. No appointment necessary, but you are strongly encouraged to pre-register by calling first. Testing is provided for free to those who are uninsured. Average turnaround time for test results: 2-4 days.
227 S. 59th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19139. 215- 474-4444



IF YOU NEED FOOD



1. **Monday starting at 12:30PM - New Journey Christian Center**, 1001 E. Cheltenham, Philadelphia PA. 191318, 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 1678 Fairview Ave, Willow Grove, PA 19090 | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. 215-243-0300
 5. **Every Friday @ 2 pm – Chosen 300-West Philadelphia** | Drive or walk thru 3959 Lancaster Ave, Philadelphia, PA 19104 | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. 215-243-0300
 6. **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
 7. **Every Friday @ 3:30 pm – Christ Haven Worship Center** | Drive or walk thru 6800 Lindbergh Blvd., Philadelphia, PA 19142 | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. 215-243-0300
 8. **Every Saturday @ 9 am – Ambler Church of the Brethren** | Drive or walk thru 351 E. Butler Ave., Ambler PA 19002 | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. 215-243-0300
 9. **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
 10. **Every Saturday @ 12 pm – Zion Baptist Church - Reading** | Drive or walk thru 224 Washington Street, Reading, PA 19601 | Sponsored by Chosen 300 Ministries, Inc. 215-243-0300
 11. **Saturdays at 1 pm**, until supplies last, free groceries are distributed at **New Covenant Church of Philadelphia**, 7500 Germantown Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19119.
 12. **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
 13. 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
 14. **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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HAZARDOUS HOUSEHOLD WASTE DISPOSAL

Next Philly event Saturday, May 15th - 9am to 3pm. Location: 4800 Parkside Ave.

Handling and disposing of hazardous waste materials requires a special set of regulations due to the potential damage the items can cause people, pets and the environment. New PA Department of Environmental Protection COVID protocols require residents to **pre-register** and **schedule an appointment** to drop off materials at an event.

Residents may drop off items labeled: **toxic, flammable, corrosive or reactive** at events offered across the City. Visit philadelphiastreet.com/hazardous-waste/ for a list of acceptable household hazardous waste and to pre-register for this event or a later event.

ENGAGING OUR YOUTH



1. Youth Conference

The Department of Human Services' *Philadelphia Youth Leadership Council* will host their **2021 "Next Level Leaders" Youth Engagement Conference!** This virtual event will take place over three days. All youth, grades 7-12, are invited to attend.

The conference focuses on healing and cultivating our youth and offers solutions through workshops, special presentations, and speed networking. The Shark Tank event to effectively address the needs of our youth and find ways to assist them with facing their daily challenges.

Dates and times:

Monday, May 17, 4:30pm – 6 pm

Wednesday, May 19, 4:30 pm – 6 pm

Saturday, May 22nd, 2021, 9:30 am – 12 noon

For more information or to register call 215-847-7415 or email michael.rice@phila.gov.

2. Scholarship Opportunities

Click on the link to view scholarship opportunities listed from the Philadelphia Foundation.

<https://www.philafound.org/students/apply-for-a-scholarship/>

FINANCIAL STRATEGIES

If you care for a person with a disability or other special needs, it's important to look beyond their medical care and the help you provide on a day-to-day basis. Join Wednesday, 5/19/21, at 7 pm, for an open conversation to discuss strategies, provides tips, and answers your questions.

Sponsored by JFCS (Jewish Family and Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia).

Speaker, Bruce H. Sham, CLF, Special Care Planner and Senior Vice President, MassMutual Greater Philadelphia. Use this link to register:

<https://www.jfcsphilly.org/events/financial-strategies-for-families-caring-for-a-loved-one-with-a-disability/>

FITNESS

Spiritual - Prayer Pause for Philadelphia | May 3 and 17, 2021 - 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, this unprecedented moment in history is an invitation to be encouraged through prayer and meditation. Join the **Office of Public Engagement's Director of Faith-Based & Interfaith Affairs**, Rev. Naomi Washington-Leapheart, on Facebook Live.

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

What is the hardest rock?

The diamond!
It is a natural mineral and considered a 'rock.'



The outermost shell of each carbon atom has four electrons. In a **diamond**, these electrons are shared with four other carbon atoms to form very strong chemical bonds resulting in an extremely rigid tetrahedral crystal. It is this simple, tightly-bonded arrangement that makes **diamond** one of the **hardest** substances on earth.

For additional DESTINY information, visit:

Your Destiny is Here Broadcast

www.blogtalkradio.com/yourdestinyishere

(a daily broadcast)

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