



YOUR DESTINY IS HERE INC

LINDA J. IVEY MINISTRIES
GREATER IS COMING

MOVING FORWARD IN YEAR 3

DESTINY – RETROSPECTIVE



The past two years of working as the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Your Destiny is Here, Inc. (YDH), a registered 501c3 non-profit organization dedicated to sharing the love of God through service to others, has been incredible.

YDH's mission is to reach everyone who has a desire for greater, by dedicating ourselves to working with individuals within our communities to help them prioritize their goals, examine their strengths, eliminate their challenges, and link them with resources that offer pathways to their divine purpose, their goal of "Greater".

YDH grew out of my researching and interviewing 16 Christian women for my first book, The Marys; Amazing Women Who Answered God's Call; Will You? Their lives and journeys were so captivating that the experience compelled me to connect with and support other women and men who were helping others in their communities.

As CEO, I have also had the privilege of working with an outstanding group of 18 Advisory Board members who have been generous with their time and talents working with our Christian and Community-related advocacy projects. YDH's board members are community focused individuals whose efforts have helped others locally, nationally, and internationally. Our local and national efforts have helped parents feed and clothe their families, provided emergency air travel, arranged emergency housing, assisted with the purchase of permanent housing, and helped funeralize victims of tragic accidents and gun violence. YDH has also donated to disaster relief efforts for New Orleans' underdeveloped 9th Ward and internationally helped with efforts towards Haiti's recovery.

YDH has partnered with three powerful community groups who focus on protecting the city's most vulnerable and exploited populations: Northwest Victims Services, Women Against Abuse Shelter, and the Philadelphia District Attorney's Office.

Building YDH and an Advisory Board is not without growing pains. We lost a dear member, Sigmund Jackson who passed earlier this year, and two other members who realized early-on that being on the Board was a significant commitment of their time and talent. YDH is better for knowing them and the lessons learned about living out our Destiny. We walk our paths; recognize and honor the unexpected bumps in the road; grow through the pain and the glory in the journey, being careful to use all lessons learned to help strengthen us towards a better and greater future that helps others.

Moving forward, YDH will increase its' impact to help others flourish and prosper. Our future plans are ever growing, breaking new ground that will broaden our horizons. Our new programs will organize neighborhoods by strengthening family units with events that entertain, enrich, and educate on conflict resolution, positive parenting, balanced relationships, setting priorities, and protecting assets.

YDH has done so much in these past two years, and we are excited to do even more in the coming years.

WALKING IN DESTINY SCRIPTURE



YDHs' **Destiny** guiding scripture is Jeremiah 29:11:

For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Each month, we provide scriptures to inspire you to walk through the destiny God has for you. We strive to keep them related to the message. Our prayer is that they lead you to God, whose word is our guide, our instruction manual, a lamp to our feet and a light on our path.

CALL TO ACTION

What things are happening around you and how are you accountable? **Call to Action** is the section that identifies, inspires, provokes, and ignites our hearts and minds about issues and topics that impact our lives, family, and communities.

We've Called You to Action on:

- Challenging Questionable Voter Legislation
- Reminding Our Legislators of Their Promises
- Keeping Our Legislators Accountable
- Attacking Domestic Violence and Child Abuse through Social Change
- Addressing Gun Violence, Bias Criminal Justice Practices, Fairness In Women's Sports
- Committing To Prayer
- Forgiving Yourself and Others for Past Mistakes
- Contacting Elderly Friends and to Staying Connected With Family
- Demonstrating Gratitude and Independence
- Being a Positive Role Model
- Acting on The Golden Rule
- Listening and Recognizing The Voice Of God
- Showing Love And Connecting With Others
- Practicing the Real Meaning Of Christmas



And there are plenty more to come. Our **Call To Action** to you this month is to evaluate how far *you've* come in the last six months, this year, or more. Appreciate how you have moved forward and are better and assess anything that may be hindering you that you should let go of and leave behind. Remember to keep your face upward and forward, for your **Destiny** is just ahead.

DESTINY SPOTLIGHT



Mr. Jerome Henry

*This month's Destiny Spotlight is on Mr. Jerome Henry, a Philadelphia native, who is the founder and owner of The Philadelphia Custom Design School of Carpentry & Cabinet Making, which has been operating since 2008. Mr. Henry's philosophy: **When you do good, good follows you, just as surely as your shadow follows you wherever you go.** Raised by compassionate parents, Mr. Henry has always had a heart to edify those around him. His training program provides hundreds of students with technical skills as well as the decision making, team building, leadership skills and **life soft skills** needed to be positive members of their communities. Mr. Henry's program has a 100% success rate for graduating students, with many starting their own successful businesses. Following is our interview with Mr. Jerome Henry.*

I've been in business for 40 years. I earned my teacher's certification and have been teaching at several schools and , including trades at Orleans Technical Institute (which is now a college), Architecture and Building Construction at Temple University for 15 years, Carpentry and Math with the School District of Camden since 2019; and the School District of Philadelphia and Youth Build Charter School as well. That's how I got started with my own school. My mother kept saying I needed to start my own school and so I did. I have a contract with the Veteran's Administration and now also with the Free Library of Philadelphia. We have a GED program and a Computer Literacy program that I offer free scholarships for. And I'm especially proud of my **Returning Citizens** program. Many people coming out of prison have a hard time finding employment. Through my program they can earn trade certifications, business licenses, and contractor's licenses. Then they are able support themselves finding jobs in construction, the building industry, and the renovation industry.

Growing up, my father was the father of the community. 'Mr. Jim' always gave back. I learned a lot about compassion from him. He would sponsor block parties and monthly picnics in the park where anybody could eat at my fathers' table. As a youngster, I remember when a man came to an event and went to the table to get a plate of food. One of the servers said, "You're not from around here." The man replied, "Mr. Jim said, everybody eats." When the rest of the servers heard that, they just piled his plate high with food. As a young man, I discovered that was the standard of a strong black man, making sure everybody inside and outside the community had a fair chance to advance.

I came up in the 70s, during the era when the Nation of Islam, the Black Panthers, and black Militancy were in the forefront. During that time my siblings and I were enrolled in Catholic school, where I served as an altar boy. I used to question the nuns about why there were no blacks in heaven, why all the saints were white, why all the angels white, why there were no blacks anywhere to be found. The nuns disapproved, especially since I asked these questions in front of all the other students. At the time I was between 13 - 15 years old. The nuns complained all the time to my mother so she finally came up to the school to find out what was going on. When she found out what was going on, she was going to take all of us out of the school, but she only took me out. My siblings ended up graduating from Roman Catholic and Little Flower, I graduated from Gratz. When I arrived at Gratz, the grade

materials we were given were what I learned in the third grade at the Catholic school. This was not the equitable, equal, fair chance I observed via my father's table. Interestingly, one of the ironies of my journey is that one of the buildings I purchased for my school used to be a Catholic school building.

As a teenager I trained in Joe Frazier's gym. I asked Mr. Frazier what advice he had for a young person. He told me, "work hard and keep your nose clean". That's what I've done all my life. And like my father, I make sure everybody who comes to my school benefits, succeeds, and wins.

Right now, 'our children' are lost. They don't have anything to do, they don't have any hope, they don't have anything to look forward to, they're not interested in school, they don't have anything. But were *they to be given something*, there would be a change across this whole city. The world is waiting for us to come of age, when we work in our community to help each other, network with each other, promote each other - that's the day you'll see us really come into our own. Which is coming. We have a lot of work to do right now, but we're on the case.

This is what my school is about. Reaching out to young men, older men, and women, helping them get a trade, get training, get skills so they can work for themselves or someone else. The school is here for the community's benefit. This is the legacy I leave behind, me giving back.

For more information, visit the website at <https://pcdtrades.wixsite.com/pcdtrades>.

LIGHTENING THE MOOD

Since the beginning, YDH has included a few lighthearted, change of pace segments to put a smile on your face and joy to your heart. These included events to attend, Trivia Questions, Word Search puzzles, and occasionally a joke or two. The enlightenment continues!



TRIVIA QUESTION

How far can a person walk in a day?



(Answer at the end of the newsletter)

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DISCOVERY



For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and not lie: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry. Habakkuk 2:3

Search for words associated with Destiny.

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

CERTAINTY
 CIRCUMSTANCE
 CONSEQUENCE
 DESTINY
 DIVINE DECREE
 END
 DESIGN
 EXPECTATION
 FATE
 FUTURE
 GOAL
 GODS WILL
 HAPPENSTANCE
 INEVITABLE
 INTENTION
 MANIFEST
 PREDESTINED
 PROSPECT
 PROVIDENCE
 PURPOSE



RESOURCES (In Philadelphia and the surrounding areas)

YDH endeavored to provide resources to help in times of need and to help move people to better. We've shared approximately 414 covid-19 related resources including vaccine pop-up clinics and testing locations; 246 food resource locations; 58 job and training opportunities; and at least 10 financial resources. We've shared many household and home assistance information as well as safety tips. The covid-19 and food resources have lessened since the beginning of the pandemic, and some of the information we provided is no longer available, however we will continue to list what we find.

At the time of publication, resources listed were obtainable.

Covid-19 resources change daily. We recommend you call and verify that what you are interested in is still available.

Please share the following with friends, family, neighbors and within your social and ministry circles.
Feel free to post on your personal social media and church bulletin boards.

▪ **COVID RELIEF**

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

▪ **COVID-19 VACCINATIONS**

Many local pharmacies in the city offer covid-19 vaccines and boosters. Check with your local pharmacy for details.

The City also offers a program that helps homebound older adults and people with disabilities schedule in-home vaccination services.

Click here to **[Find out more about getting vaccinated](#)**.



FOOD RESOURCES

The City and its partners provide free food and meals to supplement the existing food pantry network.

- Food distribution sites offer free food for residents. No ID or proof of income is required.
- Student meal sites provide free meals for children and youth in safe spaces throughout the city, senior meal sites offer grab-and-go meals for older adults. You must contact the site to reserve your meal for pick-up.
- Meal sites for residents experiencing hunger and homelessness. Please confirm mealtimes prior to arriving at the site.



To find children, youth, and senior meal providers, click to [VIEW THE FOOD SITES MAP](#)

Click here to [Find meal sites for residents experiencing hunger and homelessness](#)

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

▶ Job Opportunities in PA

<https://www.employment.pa.gov/Pages/default.aspx>

▶ Help for the Hurdles

Office of Homeless Services created a program to make it easier for people experiencing homelessness to find, and keep, a job. It's a partnership with First Step Staffing, an innovative employment organization. They hire individuals with barriers to employment and help them take the first step toward self-sufficiency.

For more information go to: https://www.phila.gov/2022-07-20-work-and-dignity-steps-on-the-road-to-housing/?mc_cid=808a25fe86&mc_eid=71b6564804

HOUSEHOLD ASSISTANCE

▶ Housing Assistance

[Homeowners](#) and [renters assistance](#) is available for those struggling with monthly payments due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

▶ Philly First Home

A first time Home buyers down payment assistance program.

The City of Philadelphia is offering a homebuyer assistance grant of up to \$10,000 (or 6% of the home's purchase price, whichever is lower) to assist first-time homebuyers reduce the principal, cover down payment and loan closing costs for those purchasing their first home. For eligibility information go to: [Philly First Home](#)



► **How To Prevent A PECO Or PGW Shutoff** | *Info from the Community Legal Services of Philadelphia*

If you are behind on your bills or have already received a shutoff notice, follow these steps right away:

1. **Apply For Grant Assistance:** Apply for utility grants from LIHEAP (applications are open from October 18th - June 17th) and Utility Emergency Services Fund (UESF). These grants can be used to pay your gas or electric bill, rescind a shutoff notice, and do not need to be repaid.
LIHEAP: You can apply online through compass.state.pa.us, in person at your county assistance office or by phone by calling (866) 857-7095.
Call 215-972-5170 (Requires service shutoff or shutoff notice).
2. **Apply For A Low-Income Assistance Program:**
PECO's Customer Assistance Program (CAP) or PGW's Customer Responsibility Program (CRP) help low-income customers lower their monthly bills and assist with debt forgiveness. Enrolling in one of these programs may prevent a shutoff.
PECO's CAP: Call (800) 774-7040 or apply online at tinyurl.com/Apply-CAP-PECO
PGW's CRP: Call (215) 684-6100 or apply online at www.pgworks.com/customer-care/crp
3. **Request A Payment Arrangement:** Anyone, regardless of income can request a payment arrangement. Do not agree to a payment arrangement that you can't afford. If you're denied a payment arrangement and you wish to challenge that decision, request the reason for your denial and call the PUC's Bureau of Consumer Services office. Call PECO at (888) 480-1533 or PGW at (215) 235-1777 and ask for a payment agreement on your balance.
4. **Request A Medical Certificate:** If you or someone in your house has a serious illness or medical condition that would be impacted by loss of utilities, you may be eligible for a medical certificate, which stops termination for 30 days. (Additional 30 day renewals may be possible.) Call PECO or PGW. Give the utility your medical provider's fax number. The utility will fax a medical certificate to the medical provider.
5. **File A Dispute With The Public Utility Commission (PUC):** If filed before the day of shutoff, an informal complaint, regarding your bill or pending termination, will temporarily stop the shutoff while the PUC investigates. Call the Bureau of Consumer Services at (800) 692-7380.

CLS phone lines are open to new clients! If you're struggling with utility issues, call (215) 981- 3700.

► **Smoke Alarms**

Philadelphia residents call 3-1-1 to receive a free smoke alarm installation. You can also [submit a request to Philly 311 online](#).



► **Let's Talk Safety** | 900AM, 96.1FM or online at [wurdradio.com](https://www.wurdradio.com)

Fire Commissioner Adam Thiel hosts his monthly talk show on WURD-900AM. Saturday, November 12th, 3 pm to 4:00 pm.

► **Water Assistance Program/LIHWAP**

The Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program (LIHWAP) is a temporary emergency program to help low-income families pay overdue water bills. LIHWAP is a grant. **You do not have to repay it.** LIHWAP crisis grants may be available if you have an emergency situation and are in jeopardy of losing your water service. You can receive one crisis grant for your drinking water service and one crisis grant for your wastewater service, up to \$2,500 each.



How to Apply

- **Online:** www.compass.state.pa.us
- **Paper:** You can download a paper application, print it, fill it out, and return it to your local county assistance office.
 - **LIHWAP Paper Application – English (PDF)**
 - **LIHWAP Paper Application – Spanish (PDF)**
- **Phone:** Request an application by calling the Statewide Customer Service Center at 877-395-8930 or call PA Relay at 711 for the hearing impaired.
- **In-Person:** Applications are available at your local county assistance office. For more information go to: <https://www.dhs.pa.gov/Services/Assistance/Pages/LIHWAP.aspx>

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

► **DadLab** | Meetings held online with Zoom | *Sponsored by Einstein Medical Center of Philadelphia*

This is a group designed for new fathers to learn about being a dad. Transitioning to fatherhood can be overwhelming. Sharing your experiences and learning from others can help you build confidence and bond with your baby. You won't be lectured on the "right" way to father. You'll have an opportunity to share your fathering experiences, concerns and questions. You'll connect with other dads going through the same things as you. New moms and partners are also included because everyone benefits when co-parents communicate and coordinate their care. For meeting times, call or text DadLab Director Jay Cherney at 215-690-1029 or email him at cherney.jay@gmail.com. Or, contact Co-facilitator Clarence B. Iszard at 484-471-7005 or iszardc@einstein.edu.



► **Philadelphia School District Re-Engagement Center**

The School District of Philadelphia's Re-Engagement Center (REC) aims to provide students who have previously dropped out (or those in school and at risk of dropping out) with the chance to return to school by offering a range of "educational pathways". These pathways are designed to assist students by providing a "best fit path" to earn their high school diploma & prepare students for successful postsecondary experiences. For more information go to:

<https://www.philasd.org/opportunitynetwork/reengagement/>

- **Black Men Educators Convening** | The Center for Black Educator Development
Loews Philadelphia Hotel | November 17 - 19, 2022

The Center for Black Educator Development is thrilled to be hosting the 5th annual Black Men Educator Convening (BMEC) this fall. They are looking to transform the education sector by recruiting, retaining, supporting, and activating more Black men to support and lead the work of revolutionizing the educational system. Participants will be welcomed in a communal, empathetic space to discuss the deep emotional, intellectual and trajectory-altering work revolutionary Black men educators do on a daily basis. Our agenda of distinguished speakers, panel discussions, and workshops will inform, inspire, and activate Black men educators and others in the education ecosystem to continue changing the outcomes for both students and educators. Learn more and register today for the Black Men Educator Convening #BMEC2022.

SPIRITUAL ENRICHMENT



- Apostle Tomy Jordan and Pastor Stephanie D. Jordan from Abiding Love Deliverance Center, NC are streaming live on Zoom every Saturday at noon. ID: 306 155 0388, Password: JESUSJOY

Dial 646-558-8656 to join them for Prayer on Tuesdays at 6pm and Wednesdays for Bible Study at 7 pm. Contact information: 267-290-0654 or abidinglovedeliverancecenter@gmail.com

- Join 'Girl Talk', every Sunday, 2pm - 3 pm on : Facebook: WTGB or online: <https://tgbtgb.org/girl-talk-2/>

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

How far can a person walk in a day?

In 1976, Jesse Castenda decided to find out how far he could go in 24 hours. The result: 228.9 km (142 miles). That's the world record for the longest distance walked in 24 hours by a male.



For additional DESTINY information, visit Our Website - www.yourdestinyishereinc.org

AND / OR: Your Destiny is Here Broadcast - www.blogtalkradio.com/yourdestinyishere

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