



I Have the **VOICE**

I have the "VOICE" to Empower my future Embrace my dreams, and calm my fears.

I have the "VOICE" to comfort my challenges Conquer them, Share them and learn from them.

I have the "VOICE" to be what my dream says I can be.

I have a "VOICE " and I am not afraid to address my future with my pass experiences.

I have the "VOICE" to Lead, Impart and Empower others to be a "VOICE".

Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

Proverbs 18:21

May 2025

The Voice NEWSLETTER

Mother's Day Spotlight Honoring:

Mother Frances Thomas



This Mother's Day, we joyfully honor Mother Frances Thomas, a beloved pillar of our church family whose faithfulness, wisdom, and love has blessed our church and many generations.

For more than 6 decades Mother Thomas has served God, her family, and the church, with grace, humility, and a heart deeply rooted in love. Over the years she has sown into the lives of others with a kind word, teaching a life skill such as cooking, a powerful prayer, or simply her presence. She has been a source of strength and spiritual guidance for all who know her. Her commitment to the church, her family, and the community is a living testimony of God's enduring love and faithfulness.

As a mother, grandmother, mentor, friend, and Church Mother at Voice of Praise, she has sown seeds of love that continue to bear fruit. We rise and call her blessed and we thank God for the blessing she has been to our church.



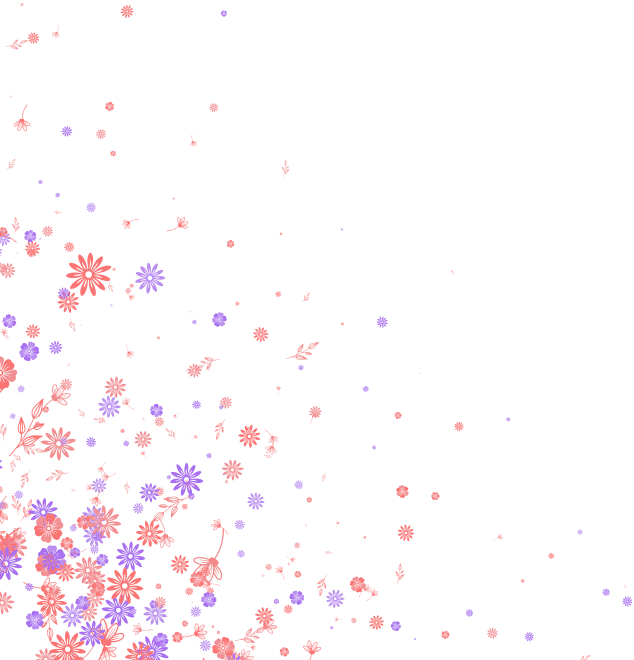
Honoring Our Mothers

The second Sunday in May is designated as Mother's Day. It's a time to celebrate the women who have nurtured, guided, and prayed us through every season of life. It doesn't matter if these women are biological, adoptive, spiritual, or chosen, mothers reflect the heart of God in their love, sacrifice, and strength.

Throughout Scripture, we see examples of mothers whose faith and perseverance impacted generations. From Hannah, who prayed earnestly for her son and dedicated him to the Lord, to Mary, who carried and raised the Savior with courage and grace—mothers have always played a vital role in God's plan.

We honor every woman who has given of herself in love, those who have wiped tears, offered wisdom, shared laughter, and prayed without ceasing. We also acknowledge that for some, this day brings mixed emotions, grief, longing, or complicated memories. May God's peace and comfort surround all who are remembering or missing a mother's presence.

Let us give thanks to God for the mothers in our lives and encourage them with words that uplift, support, and affirm their value, not only on Mother's Day ... but every day.



To Our MOTHERS ...from US!

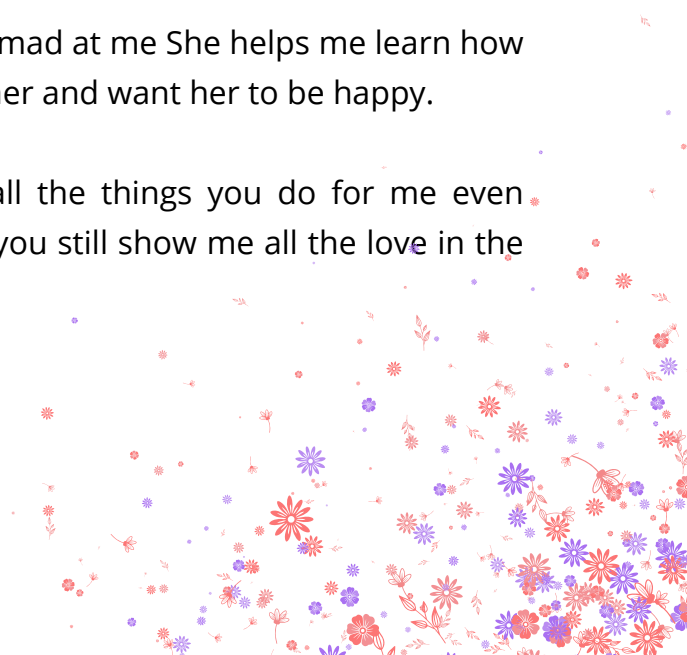
Major Counts: What I want my mom to know for mother's Day is that I truly love my mom for everything/all she has done for me and it will always continue to be that I thank her for how she has help he grow more as a person I learned my rights for my wrong and I thank her so much.

Rachel Grier: I wanna say that she is the best mom I can ever ask for she was there for me when nb was I love my mom with my whole heart and I'm riding behind her all the time my mom is the type of person to make sure evb is okay even when she got a lot going on that's sums up the type of person she is my mom is my first best friend and ik that I can always come to her when I need sum and ik it's not a long paragraph but you know how it is with me n uu we may have our ups and downs but we always come back and I love the talk we share the little moments we have and the core memories we share so I love uu and appreciate uu and happy Mother's Day .

Apelles West: The way I feel About My Mom Is she loves me and she cares for me. I'm grateful for how she takes care of me and she sacrifices for me. How she gives me stuff I don't deserve. She helps me with my work.

If I don't know how to do something she doesn't get mad at me She helps me learn how to do it. I appreciate everything she does and I love her and want her to be happy.

J'Shawn: Mom ... I love and appreciate you for all the things you do for me even though I definitely get on your nerves all the time - you still show me all the love in the world. I love you - thank you for everything.



MORE ...from US!

Diajé Counts: To me, a mother is love in its purest form — quiet, strong, and always there.

Karlos Cartwright: To my mother, I love and appreciate everything you do for me day in and day out - it doesn't go unrecognized.

Alycia Mintze: My mom is God's divine gift in my life a vessel of His love, wisdom, and grace, guiding me with faith and covering me in prayer.

Nya'Lin: But my mom means the world to me. She's fun, strong, SPOILED, loving and caring. She's a wonderful woman and example as a mom, and I couldn't ask for another one 🧡.

Joshua Grier: What my mom means to me is a mother who makes it happen, a mother who makes something out of nothing. Ms.make it happen!

Imani Counts: I love my mom and her kisses.

Paris Counts: Tell my mom I wanted to say that I really love her and even know the bad times I still love and it is a blessing that I have her in my life.

Londyn: My mom means so much to me. I can tell her anything and she's my number 1.

Logan Coleman: My mom means the world to me. Being a single mother of 2 children that argue and fight everyday is tough but being an African American woman in this day and age makes it even harder. Even so my mom provided for us without showing any stress or pressure. My mom is the most beautiful, amazing lovely, and caring person I have ever met. Thank you mom for being there for me.



... it just keeps coming

Andre Bell Jr: My Mom is someone I can always count on to love me, teach me, be there for me and raise me right. She's someone I can call at any time and confide in whenever I need her, she enriches my life.

Milan: Mom means someone that loves you, cares about you, Supports you, provides for you, teaches you right from wrong, prays for you and with you.

Special Events w/Champion Learning Center



May 16, 2025 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Managing the Pressures of Parenting

Facilitator: Dionne Harrison

Voice of Praise WWM

3509 Old York Road/ 19130

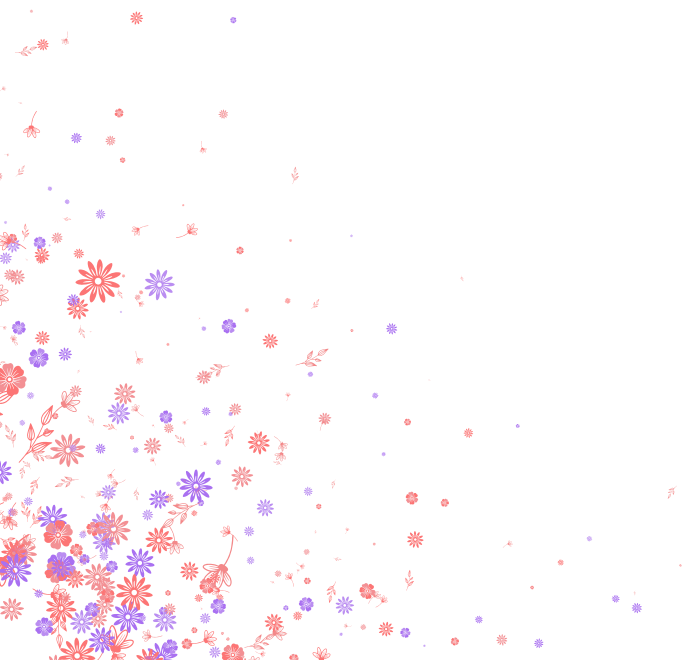
May 21, 2025 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Parenting Children with Special Needs

Facilitator: Paula Washington

Voice of Praise WWM

3509 Old York Road/19130



Faith, Support and Mental Wellness

May is Mental Health Awareness Month, and we want to remind one another that mental health is just as important as physical health and spiritual health. As a church family, we are called to be a safe place for healing, hope, and support. This isn't just for the soul, but also for the mind.



The Bible reminds us in 3 John 1:2: "Beloved, I pray that you may prosper in all things and be in health, just as your soul prospers."

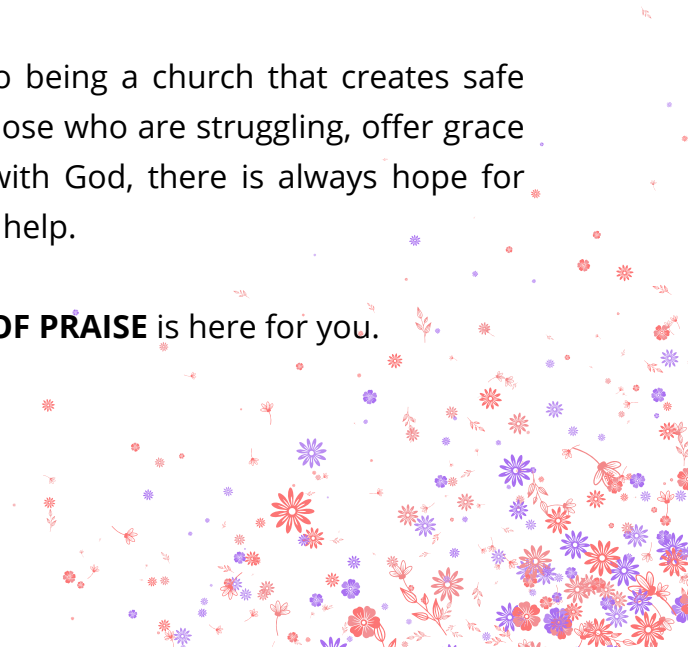
Mental health challenges can affect any of us. Anxiety, depression, grief, trauma, and emotional exhaustion are real struggles, and they do not make someone weak or less faithful. Even great biblical figures like David, Elijah, and Job experienced emotional pain and cried out to God in their distress.

As a church, we must walk with those who are hurting, not offering judgment but compassion, encouragement, and support. This may look like listening without fixing, praying without pressuring, and guiding loved ones toward professional help when needed.

Let's remember that God is near to the brokenhearted, and He desires wholeness for every part of us - mind, body, and spirit. Taking care of our mental health is not a sign of weakness but a sign of wisdom, stewardship, and strength.

This month, and every month after, let's commit to being a church that creates safe spaces for honesty, healing, and hope. Let's uplift those who are struggling, offer grace in place of shame, and remind one another that with God, there is always hope for restoration. It's OK to not be OK. It's also OK to seek help.

If you or someone you know needs support, **VOICE OF PRAISE** is here for you.



May Events

- May 5 - Women's Department Meeting
- May 8 - Supportive Solutions for Single Parents 6:00pm
- **May 11 - MOTHER'S DAY**
- May 16 - Managing the Pressures of Parenting
- May 21 - Parenting Children with Special Needs
- May 26 - Memorial Day
- May 30 - All Night Prayer

Back 2 Basics Bible Study

- Every Tuesday

Weekly Prayer Meetings

- Monday through Friday - 6:00am
- Every 1st Saturday - 6:00am
- Every Sunday Morning - 8:00am



VOP Zoom Info

Account #: 833 6315 1275
Password: 799764



VOP Prayer Line

Phone #: (267) 807-9605
Password: 492025



Download the App

www.freeconferencecall.com
Meeting ID: voiceofpraise2007
Phone #: (267) 807-9605
Password: 492025

3509 Old York Road
Philadelphia, PA 19140
Alice L. Martin, Pastor

A Heartfelt

THANK
YOU!

to Our Bible Institute

As we celebrate growth, learning, and the joy of spiritual development this month, we would like to give a heartfelt thanks to the dedicated instructors, leaders, and staff of our Bible who serve faithfully. Your commitment to rightly dividing the Word of Truth and nurturing spiritual maturity has made a lasting impact on our church and the people we serve. Through your teaching, you've helped lay strong foundations of faith in the lives of many.

We appreciate your dedication, your service, and your heart for God's people.

With love and appreciation! Thank you for all that you do!