

IN LOVING, LASTING MEMORY
OF

Min. Glenda L. Wrenn

SUNRISE
November 8th, 1949



SUNSET
March 26th, 2026

CELEBRATION OF LIFE

April 2, 2026
Decatur City Church
1995 Clairmont Road
Decatur, GA 30033

Order of Service

Music Provided by: Lauren Lee Ditzler

Family Procession

“Goodness of God”

Welcoming Prayer

Billy Phenix
Pastor, Decatur City Church

Congregational Song

“O Come to the Altar”

The Scriptures

Old Testament: Psalm 23

Master Josiah Walter Wrenn Gordon & his older siblings
Elisheva Louise, Isaiah John, and Avi Love

New Testament: 2 Corinthians 5: 8-10

Sandra Carter James, *Living Faith Christian Center (NJ)*

Reflections

Elder Edward L. Willis, MBA, *The Perfecting Church (NJ)*
Akil J. Gordon, MD

Musical Selection

“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”

Reflections

Katira LaRene Wrenn Fuller
Jonathan Benjamin Wrenn
Gregory Laurence Wrenn

Life Story & Legacy

Glenda Wrenn Gordon, MD

Eulogy

Rev. Dr. Clinton Craig Hoggard
Associate Minister, Vine Memorial Baptist Church
Personal Friend & Bible Scholar

Selection of Triumph

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

Closing Prayer and Dismissal

Pastor Billy Phenix



An Inimitable Life

Minister Glenda Louise Wrenn was born on November 8, 1949, in Cairo, Georgia—fondly known as the hometown of Jackie Robinson. She was the beloved daughter of the late Liscious and Alice Broadwater Williams, and the eldest daughter and second of seven children. Raised with strong values of faith, discipline, and perseverance, her father was a businessman who owned a local gas station. Glenda often reflected on her early years, including working in the cotton and tobacco fields as early as preschool, and teaching herself to sew by observing her mother’s craftsmanship. These experiences shaped her strength, resilience, ingenuity, and unwavering work ethic.

Her academic excellence was evident from an early age. She attended Washington Consolidated High School from first through twelfth grade, where she was a straight-A student and graduated as **Valedictorian of the Class of 1967**. Her intellectual curiosity led her to Tuskegee Institute, where she studied radioisotope technology and began her collegiate journey as a chemistry major.

On December 23, 1967, she married Thomas Cloud III, who later matriculated at Emory University School of Medicine. During this season, she welcomed a daughter while continuing her academic pursuits. In January 1968, she transferred to Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia, where she majored in English and found her academic and creative voice. She graduated in June 1972, joining the distinguished legacy of Spelman women.

While at Spelman, Glenda distinguished herself as both a scholar and a leader. She was nominated for departmental honors, helped produce the first Mass Communications television project at Clark College, and served as president of the first Black college chapter of American Women in Radio and Television. Her literary voice also emerged during this time, with selected works published in *FOCUS Magazine*.

Upon graduation, she was honored with a prestigious appointment as **personal secretary to Dr. Benjamin E. Mays**, the renowned educator, former president of Morehouse College, and spiritual mentor to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Serving under Dr. Mays profoundly shaped her commitment to leadership, faith, and service. She remained in this role until relocating to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



Faith and Love

On April 16, 1977, she married **Dr. Walter F. Wrenn III**, beginning a loving partnership rooted in faith and family. Through this union, she embraced five additional children, expanding her role as a devoted and nurturing mother. The couple began their life together in Wilmington, Delaware, where they welcomed their first child together. They later purchased a home and moved to Voorhees, New Jersey, where they welcomed a son, completing their growing family. It was there that they established a loving home and remained for more than 40 years.

Minister Wrenn's professional journey was marked by versatility and excellence. She became a licensed real estate agent in Georgia and broke barriers as the **first female marketing representative for Mobil Oil Corporation**. She also served as a sales representative for American Optical, Inc., and later as a **Community Relations Service Representative for the United States Department of Justice**, where she worked to foster understanding and equity among diverse communities.

Her passion for education and mentorship extended into the classroom when she served as a **teacher at Children of Promise Christian School and Childcare of Lindenwold and Cherry Hill, New Jersey**. There, she poured into the lives of young people with patience, wisdom, and care, reflecting her lifelong commitment to nurturing the next generation. A lifelong learner, she earned her **Master's Degree in Education from Wilmington College (now Wilmington University)** and furthered her theological studies at Palmer (Eastern) Seminary.

Faith was the foundation of her life. She accepted Christ at an early age, and later experienced a profound spiritual renewal at **Faith United Christian Church**, where she **recommitted her life to Christ under the leadership of Rev. Walter McDaniel**. This pivotal season deepened her relationship with God and prepared her for a life of bold and faithful ministry.



Ministry and Leadership

In 1993, she joined **Vine Memorial Baptist Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. James Sterling Allen, Sr., where she was baptized and became a devoted servant. Over the years, she faithfully served in numerous roles, including Minister of the Missionary Society, Associate Minister of Evangelism, President of the Good Shepherd Ministry, member of the Board of Deaconess, Assistant Superintendent of Sunday School, and participant in Leadership Council, Hospitality, and Women's Ministry. Her service was recognized in 2012 during the church's 80th Anniversary.

In February 2010, she answered her divine calling and was licensed as a Minister of the Gospel, formally affirming what had long been evident in her life.

Her ministry extended far beyond her local church. She served as **Clergy Chair of the Pennsylvania Baptist State Convention Women's Ministry**, on the Board of the Eastern Region Women's Ministry, and as **Assistant Chaplain and later Chaplain of the Auxiliary to the National Medical Association**. In this role, she supported the **Triple Negative Breast Cancer Awareness Initiative**, advocating for early detection and education among African American women.

She also served as **Chaplain of the Voorhees Chapter of the National Council of Negro Women**, was a **lifetime member of the Spelman College Alumnae Association**, and became a trusted member of the **Board of Trustees of the African Textile Museum**.

Minister Wrenn was known for her fearless evangelism and deep love for people. She never missed an opportunity to share the Gospel—whether in church, on the street, over the phone, or during personal interactions.

Her faith was active, bold, and unwavering.



Exemplary Courage

In January 2017, her health was severely impacted by a stroke that left her unable to move her left side. Yet even in this season, her spirit remained strong. She continued to travel with her beloved husband, including fulfilling a dream of an Alaska cruise, and remained active in ministry by calling into Wednesday night services and witnessing to caregivers and all she encountered.

In 2022, she was diagnosed with triple negative breast cancer and underwent a mastectomy. In June 2025, she was diagnosed with metastatic disease. She relocated to Decatur, Georgia, where she was lovingly cared for by her daughter, Dr. Glenda Wrenn Gordon, and her husband, Dr. Akil Gordon. She entered home hospice care in February 2026.

Even in her final chapter, her life was filled with joy and meaningful experiences—a 76th Birthday Celebration at the African Textile Museum, a joyful bowling outing, a trip to the Georgia Aquarium with her grandson Josiah, and attending the Shen Yun performance with her daughter—one of her long-held wishes. Most meaningful was witnessing the baptism of her granddaughter Elisheva on March 15, a moment that brought her immense joy.

In her final days, her spirit remained vibrant. She expressed a heartfelt wish:

“Before I go, I’d like to have a Spelman outfit.”

Her brother Ronald lovingly fulfilled that request. With strength and grace, she dressed and recorded a final greeting to her Spelman sisters—a beautiful expression of her enduring pride and sisterhood.

Surrounded by love, comfort, and family, in the early morning hours of March 26, 2026, Minister Glenda Louise Wrenn peacefully transitioned to her eternal home.

Her life was a testament to faith, resilience, service, and love. She gave fully, lived purposefully, and left a legacy that will continue to inspire generations.

Her favorite scripture reflects the essence of her journey:

**“But He knoweth the way that I take:
when He hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.”**

— Job 23:10

Cherished Family and Legacy



Minister Glenda Louise Wrenn was preceded in death by her beloved husband, Dr. Walter F. Wrenn III; her daughters, Aziza (née Debra), Kathy, and her son Walter; her sister, Bertha Williams; and her brother, Liscious Williams.

She leaves to cherish her memory her loving siblings: Beryl James (George), Griselda Lipscomb (Steven), Ronald Williams, and Joan Shiver (Andre); her devoted children: Karen, Jonathan (Joy), Katira (Fred), Glenda (Akil), and Gregory (Kera); and a host of cherished grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins, and beloved friends—all entrusted with carrying her legacy forward.



A Savior's Love

They only saw you weeping when you'd jump and praise my name,

But I saw all your secret tears, and I knew all your pain.

They noticed when you tired, far at the end of your rope;

But only I knew the load you carried—why your whole soul screamed out “nope!”

You represented me so very well, in every occupation.

Even when you stumbled, slipped up, you maintained a repentant persuasion.

I'm so very proud of you daughter, how you loved and lived; how you adored,

Of how you bore your cross with grace and never asked for less or more.

You trusted me with everything, you never asked me why.

You simply kept on praising me, through all the struggles that passed through and by.

Most of all, with humility, you served with great distinction; From the Good Shepherd Ministry to all the Bibles you gave to so many children.

Your extravagant generosity perfectly pointed to my love,

That endless fount of every blessing surely came only from above.

Those who loved you, loved you well and will continue to carry your light.

Now you rest among the saints, by my spirit, by my might.

By Dr. Glenda Wrenn Gordon in honor of her mother, Min. Glenda L. Wrenn on the occasion of her heavenly ascension. March 26, 2026





The family of Minister Glenda Louise Wrenn extends heartfelt gratitude for the many expressions of love, prayers, and support during this time. Your kindness and compassion have been a source of strength and comfort.

We offer special thanks to her dedicated medical and care teams whose compassion and excellence surrounded her with dignity and love: the Oncology and Palliative Care teams at Grady Health System, the Golden Rule Hospice Care Team, and her devoted private caregivers—Ms. Esther, Ms. Barbara, Ms. Octavia, and Ms. Titi—whose faithful presence and gentle care brought comfort and peace in her final days.

Your service will always be remembered with deep appreciation.



Reverend Ralph E. Blanks, Pastor

Deacon Karl Wilson,
Deacon William Vernon Burns, Jr.,
Co-Chairmen, Board of Deacons
Trustee Marian W. Langdon
Chairman, Board of Trustees
Deacon William B. Bryant, III
Church Clerk
Trustee Shirley Cooke
Financial Secretary
Trustee Cheryl P. Hawkins
Treasurer

Vine Memorial Baptist Church

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Vine Memorial School
Freetown, Sierra Leone
West Africa

April 2, 2026

To the family of Our Beloved Minister Glenda Wrenn:

The year was 1992. William Jefferson Clinton won the U.S. presidential election, defeating incumbent George H.W. Bush and independent candidate Ross Perot. The Maastricht Treaty was signed, leading to the creation of the European Union and paving the way for the euro as the commonly accepted currency of Europe. A referendum in South Africa resulted in the end of apartheid. And in the city of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on the corner of 56th Street and Girard Avenue, a marriage took place; not a marriage of a man and a woman, but rather the marriage of a faithful servant with a loving church.

On the fourth Sunday of September in that year, as the doors of the church were opened, the record indicates that Glenda Williams Cloud Wrenn stepped forward to unite with the Vine Memorial Baptist Church. This faithful lady had given her heart to the Lord Jesus Christ years before in the church of her childhood, but now she gave her hand to the esteemed Pastor, the late Reverend Dr. James S. Allen; and for the many years that followed, Sister Glenda went on to give her service, her time, her talent, and her tithe to the church that came to love her as much as she loved it back.

***“The Church’s One Foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is his new creation by water and the word.
From heaven, He came and sought her to be His holy bride,
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.”***

The “church” she joined was actually founded almost 2,000 earlier, when the Savior who died for her spoke these words: ***“Upon this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”*** That church has outlasted kingdoms and dynasties, conquerors and monarchs. And though it exists today in multiple denominations, this ***“church”*** of which we speak still exists in unity because of its believers’ faith in its leader: Jesus Christ! And so it is that we, a mere branch on the vine of that ‘Tree of Life’, a mere 94 years in existence as a congregation, pause to celebrate the life and legacy of one of our longtime, faithful members, and beloved sister-in-Christ, Minister Glenda Wrenn. So it is, as well, that Pastor Blanks, the Officers, and the full membership of the Vine Memorial Baptist Church pause to offer this expression of our official condolences, as you, too, celebrate a life well lived, and thank God for this gift of mother, grandmother, and faithful friend.

Though we have the benefit of hindsight now, one cannot help but wonder: *who would have known what the future held when the calendar was turned to 1992?* Who would have known, for example, that Sister Wrenn, who could have simply chosen to be a good “bench member” would have joined ranks with the Women’s Ministry, Hospitality Ministry, and the Missionary Society and served faithfully and consistently? Or who could have imagined that she would go on to lend her beautiful soprano voice with the Oratorio Choir, singing the great hymns, anthems, and spirituals of the church. And would anyone have guessed that *Sister Wrenn* would soon become *Minister Wrenn* as she yielded to the call of God upon her life to preach the Good News of the gospel to all who would hear?

Only God knew!! And only God knows!! Indeed, only God can keep you, her family, and sustain you, as He did your mother for her near eighty-year journey. Please know that Vine Memorial Baptist Church records with reverence and respect the passing of this great servant of Christ. We will long hold tightly to the memories we have of the passionate, poised, articulate, and always perfectly coordinated Minister Wrenn. More than that, though, we will remember how you, Dr. Wrenn, cared for your mother with the same devoted attention that a mother shows for her child, just as our Heavenly Father cares for us. Surely, her final days were brightened, perhaps even extended because of all that you did. We have seen; and so has God Above.

And now that she has passed from here to there; now that she has been lifted from life temporal to life eternal; now that she has moved her membership from the Church Militant to the Church Triumphant, we offer our hearts and hands in sympathy and support. Now that she has stepped into the space where worship will have no end, we worship the God in whose presence she dwells with hearts of grateful praise, and we offer the simple reminder found in that great hymn of our faith,

*‘Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She awaits the consummation of peace forever more,
Till with a vision glorious, her longing eyes are blessed
And the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.*

Done by the order of the Vine Memorial Baptist Church.

William B. Bryant III
William B. Bryant, III
Church Clerk

Ralph E. Blanks
Reverend Ralph E. Blanks
Pastor



Auxiliary to the
National
Medical
Association

April 1, 2026

The Auxiliary to the National Medical Association extends our deepest condolences to the family and loved ones of Minister Glenda L. Wrenn, BA, M.Ed.

A devoted and cherished member of the ANMA, Min. Wrenn served faithfully as our Chaplain, offering spiritual guidance, comfort, and unwavering support to all who had the privilege of knowing her. Her presence at our annual conferences and mid-year leadership meetings in Washington, DC was a constant reminder of her steadfast dedication to the mission and vision of our organization. Min. Wrenn brought grace, compassion, and an abiding faith that strengthened our community and touched countless lives.

Min. Wrenn's warm smile, elegant hats, and boundless love for the Auxiliary were hallmarks of the joy and spirit she shared so freely. Her legacy of service, spirituality, and sisterhood will continue to inspire us for years to come. While we will deeply miss her physical presence, we remain grateful for the light she brought into our organization and the lasting imprint she leaves behind. We pray for comfort and peace for her family, friends, and all who mourn her passing. May her soul rest in eternal love and serenity.

With deepest sympathy,

The Auxiliary to the National Medical Association

Mrs. Mavis James, President



Spelman College
Honors the memory of
Glenda Cloud Wrenn
Class of 1972

*Our hearts are heavy to learn that our dear Spelman sister, **Glenda Cloud Wrenn** has transitioned. On behalf of the Spelman College community and the class of **1972**, we would like to express our most sincere condolences to the family and loved ones.*

*Spelman College recognizes **Glenda** for her shared spirit and commitment, in the likeness of the founders, and for her service in accordance with the Spelman standard, raising such standards, embracing Spelman sisters, and serving as a model for future servant-leaders.*

*Now, therefore, for her commitment to the mission of Spelman College, and the example she set for women everywhere, Spelman College celebrates the life and legacy of **Glenda Cloud Wrenn**, class of 1972. Our farewell is best expressed in the final stanza of the Spelman Hymn:*

*And when life's race is won,
thy noble work is done,
Oh God, forever bind,
our hearts to thine.*

Presented this second day of April, two thousand and twenty-six, and the one hundred forty-fourth year of Spelman College.

Attest:

*Linda Hart Patton, C'88
Director of Alumnae Operations,
Spelman College*

Resolution of Appreciation and Recognition

For Minister Glenda Wrenn, A Mighty Woman of God We, the Founders, Administrators, and Staff of The Children of Promise Christian School and Childcare of Lindenwold and Cherry Hill, New Jersey, extend our heartfelt condolences to the entire family of our Beloved Minister Glenda Wrenn. We are deeply grateful for her faithful service to our learning community, which she carried out with distinction and excellence.

There are truly no words sufficient to express the profound impact Ms. Glenda (affectionately known by her students), has had upon our school family. Glenda embodied the mission of Children of Promise through her exemplary leadership, nurturing students to become “well-informed, imaginative, and effective lifelong learners of exceptional character; while faithfully integrating the Word of God into the hearts of the next generation.”

Minister Glenda was far more than an educator; she was a true servant leader. Glenda poured her love and passion for God into the lives of her students, teaching them not only academic principles but how to think, how to live and how to lead according to biblical principles. Her life reflected the wisdom of Proverbs 22:6: “Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.”

Ms. Glenda’s influence extended well beyond the classroom. Whether in her church, her community, or her home, Minister Glenda was a powerful voice of encouragement, wisdom, and positivity; nothing was impossible! She carried herself with humility, strength and dignity, leaving an indelible mark on all who had the privilege of knowing her. Truly, Glenda will be remembered as one of God’s mighty generals of the faith.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, the leadership and the administration of Children of Promise Christian School and Childcare, do hereby formally honor, recognize and commend Minister Glenda Wrenn for her unwavering commitment to Christ-Centered Education and her sincere love for God, her family, and all people.

To Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, The Author and Finisher of our Faith, we give honor and gratitude for Minister Glenda Wrenn’s life and legacy.

Humbly Submitted,

Pastor Amir Khan

Mrs. Aughtney D. Khan Principal

Mrs. Bernice Davis Director, Children of Promise Christian School and Childcare



**AFRICAN TEXTILE
MUSEUM**

RESOLUTION HONORING

GLENDALOUSE WRENN

“QUEEN OF HEARTS DAY”

Presented by the African Textile Museum Board of Directors

WHEREAS, Glenda Louise Wrenn embodied a beautiful spirit marked by grace, kindness, and an inspirational presence, touching the lives of countless individuals through her love and compassion; and

WHEREAS, she dedicated her life to protecting the innocent and uplifting underserved children and families, offering guidance, support, and unwavering care; and

WHEREAS, Glenda demonstrated a deep appreciation for culture, arts, fashion, and tradition, recognizing their vital role in preserving identity and fostering connection across communities; and

WHEREAS, her life was defined by exemplary leadership, generosity, and a steadfast commitment to empowering others, cultivating leaders and leaving a legacy that continues to inspire future generations; and

WHEREAS, her vision lives on through the establishment of a commemorative fund and the “Queen of Hearts” tribute within the African Textile Museum, celebrating her life, legacy, and enduring impact;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

That the Governing Board of Directors of the African Textile Museum hereby honors Glenda Louise Wrenn for her extraordinary life, service, and enduring legacy; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the African Textile Museum hereby proclaims November 8 as “**Queen of Hearts Day**”, in recognition of her profound impact and lasting contributions.

Adopted this 8th day of November, 2025

**African Textile Museum
Board of Directors**



NEW BETHEL MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

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LAKE CITY, FLORIDA 32055

PASTOR ALVIN J. BAKER
HOME PHONE: 386-755-3891
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April 2, 2026

*No winter without a spring
And beyond the dark horizon
Our hearts will once more sing
For those who leave us for a while
Have only gone away
Out of a restless care worn world
Into a brighter day*

Whereas, God has called from her home and dear family, **Minister Glenda L. Wren**, and

Whereas, she has left with us her sister, **Sister Beryl James**, who is a faithful and serving member of New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church of Lake City, Florida, Inc.

Therefore, be it resolved that the members of this church are resigned to the Divine Will of the Heavenly Father, who makes no mistakes; we extend our deepest sympathy to the family in the loss of their loved one and recommend them to lean on the everlasting arm of Jesus, who can and will heal all sorrow.

Resolved further, that a copy of this resolution be given to the family with our love and prayers.

Prayerfully Submitted,

Alvin J. Baker

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Rev. Alvin J. Baker, Pastor