

Mrs. Angela Mae Graham is being recognized by the Ocean City Juneteenth Organization with the Spiritual Leadership Award during the Inaugural Juneteenth Celebration & Brunch, June 17, 2017. Mrs. Graham's angelic voice is held dear to so many in the community, as God's love rings from her shouts, as well as her whispers. In everything she has done, from nursing to community volunteering, she has shown the grace of God to all she has encountered. Spiritual guidance and love are the footsteps she has paved for us to follow.

Mrs. Graham was born on June 26, 1933 in Philadelphia to Margaret and George Roane. She began her education in Philadelphia at the Paul Lawrence Dunbar School, before moving to Ocean City as a young teenager. Attending Ocean City High School, Mrs. Graham became the first Black soloist in the school's choir. Her love for singing has continued throughout her life, and with her daughters, she has provided the soundtrack for many memorable times in the community. Mrs. Graham became a Licensed Practical Nurse and worked as a home health aide and as an LPN at Shore Memorial Hospital, specializing in Pediatrics and Obstetrics. She then obtained her Associate's degree from Atlantic Community College in Business Administration while working as the Supervisor for the Summer Day Camp at 8<sup>th</sup> Street Recreation Center and as the Recreational Supervisor for the Youth Center. Her love and compassion for the children of Ocean City shined in these positions, where she organized countless field trips and student projects. Mrs. Graham also worked as a Classroom Aide and Substitute Teacher for the Pleasantville Board of Education, and retired from this position. Mrs. Graham is a faithful and devoted member of St. James A.M.E. Church and had held many positions, including Pastor's Aide and Young Adult Choir Director. She has always been available to share the word of God with anyone in need and has prayed for and uplifted so many with her words of encouragement and love. At St. James, Mrs. Graham held annual Easter plays where she would distribute a speaking part to each child who was responsible for memorizing their part and performing it on Easter Sunday. Many adults credit these plays with their development in public speaking and self-confidence. Mrs. Graham has been involved in many other organizations, including being a Den Mother and Pack Leader for the Boy Scouts of America, serving on the City of Ocean City Civil Defense, and holding the positions of Secretary and President of the Women's Missionary Society. In 2010, Mrs. Graham received the Dr. Martin Luther King Achievement Award during Ocean City's annual celebration of Dr. King's birthday. Mrs. Graham still resides in Ocean City in the home she shared with her late husband Nathaniel Graham. She is the mother to six children, and the grandmother to 13 grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren.