

*The GEM Community Center - Christian Women Who Blossom
Book Launch Event*

Digital Program

July 19th, 2025 | 11:00AM - 11:30AM PST



TheGEMCommunityCenter.org

Christian Women Who Blossom Book Launch Event

Christian Women Who Blossom are those who grow in grace, faith, and inner strength through their relationship with God. They cultivate wisdom, kindness, and courage, allowing their character to reflect the beauty of Christ in every area of life.

Through trials and triumphs, they mature spiritually, bearing fruit that blesses their families, communities, and churches. Their lives shine with purpose, love, and quiet confidence, rooted deeply in God's truth.

Proverbs 31:25-26 (NIV):

"She is clothed with strength and dignity; she can laugh at the days to come. She speaks with wisdom, and faithful instruction is on her tongue."

This passage reflects the essence of a Christian woman who blossoms — growing in strength, wisdom, and grace through her faith in God.



Christian Women Who Blossom
2025 Vol. 3
Book Launch Program

Opening Prayer

Book Launch & Purpose

- Sharing the heart behind the launch
 - Book ordering links provided

Meet the Authors

- Inspiration behind their writing
 - Brief book overview
 - Short reading or reflection

Words of Gratitude & Encouragement

- Encouragement from the host
- Thanks to authors and attendees

Closing Remarks & Dismissal

- Official close of the gathering

Author's Bio. Dr. Latrice Jones (h.c.)



Latrice Jones, hailing from Southern California, is a dynamic servant leader, mentor, strategist and motivational speaker renowned for her commitment to empowerment and community upliftment. As a first-generation college graduate, Latrice earned her BA in Administrative Studies from UC Riverside, a Masters' Degree in Public Administration from CSU Long Beach, and a Masters' Degree in Leadership from Grand Canyon University. In recognition of her outstanding contributions to humanitarian efforts, Latrice was bestowed with an Honorary Doctorate in Humanitarianism, further solidifying her dedication to serving others.

Latrice has served in various administrative and management capacities, including City government, the non-profit sector, and currently serves as a Principal Analyst for the County of Los Angeles, Chief Executive Office. Balancing her roles as a public servant, an Entrepreneur, and as a devoted mother to Lauryn, a Labor & Delivery RN, and Jared, a high school Boy Scout, community leader and scholar athlete, Latrice continues to exemplify excellence in all her endeavors. She is the visionary Founder of LJ Speaks, a platform dedicated to advocating, mentoring, empowering and inspiring women to pursue their purpose, follow their dreams and live their best life.

Beyond her professional achievements, Latrice is an accomplished author, co-authoring a journal and books on empowerment, healing, spiritual growth, and personal development. She remains deeply engaged in community service, serving as a Children's Church and Sunday school teacher, an Advisory Board Member for the University of California Riverside School of Education, a Member of the Los Angeles County African American Employees Association, and a City of Pomona Civilian Oversight Committee Member.

With over 25 years of experience in leadership development, Latrice is renowned for her ability to inspire and motivate others through workshops, conferences, one-on-one mentoring, group coaching, and public speaking engagements & prides herself for being a catalyst of support and empowerment.

Guided by her unwavering belief in the transformative power of purpose, change and empowerment, Dr. Latrice Jones continues to encourage others to embrace their potential and make strides towards positive outcomes. When asked why she does it all, she replies "It is my mission to be the change in the world that I want to see. I believe in the empowerment of others. I believe in the power of living in Purpose, and I encourage all to walk in FAITH and prepare themselves to make BOLD MOVES!"

Follow her on FaceBook: LatriceMarie or LJSPEAKS and on IG: @latricemarie8311 or ljspeaks_empowerment

Author's Bio. Cynthia Wilson Pleasant



Meet Cynthia Wilson Pleasant: Owner and founder of VIP Coaching and Consulting. A visionary hailing from the vibrant city of San Diego, CA. She has 2+ decades of experience in training, development, and management where she orchestrated a symphony of IT enhancements and solutions for users throughout the enterprise, all while dancing to the rhythm of her own beat – from the comfort of her home office.

Cynthia is no ordinary manager; she's a trailblazer with a heart of gold. Fueled by an unshakable faith and an unyielding pursuit of excellence, she thrives on connecting with people on a profound level. While her role might involve millions of dollars saved and projects managed, her true triumphs lie in nurturing talents, guiding colleagues towards their dreams, and igniting the spark that leads to personal achievement.

From a pioneering first-generation college graduate at the University of California, Riverside, where she mastered the intricacies of Psychobiology, to earning an MBA in Healthcare Management from the University of Phoenix, Cynthia's journey is an embodiment of relentless dedication.

Cynthia's world is painted with diverse strokes. An entrepreneur at heart, she's not just about numbers and projects. With a coaching certification in her pocket and a passion for massage that runs deep, was the mastermind behind Heavenly Cynsations for over two decades – a testament to her dynamic spirit.

Life isn't just about business for Cynthia – balance is the key. Her heart finds joy in exploring new horizons, chasing thrilling adventures, and tracing uncharted motorcycle routes. Every twist and turn in her journey is a testament to her zest for life.

So, if you're ready to turn your life around, to rewrite your story with Cynthia's strategic guidance, you're in for an exhilarating ride. Let her unique blend of professional prowess and personal passion light up your path to success. After all, Cynthia Pleasant isn't just a coach; she's the architect ready to help you build your extraordinary tomorrow.

VIP Access to Vision, Intention & Purpose
Not just a code – It's a Calling!



Author's Bio. Julie Gomez



Julie The Financier

Teen mom at 16. GED holder. County employee turned financial entrepreneur.

Julie's journey hasn't been easy—but it's been purposeful. By 19, she was raising two daughters on her own after the tragic loss of their father. Determined to build a better life, she earned her GED, completed two years of college, and secured a career with the County of Los Angeles. But even after hitting top-pay, Julie knew there was more to life than clocking in and out of a 9-5.

In 2020, fueled by a passion to protect other families from financial hardship, she launched her financial business.

Today, she's a wife, mother of three daughters, and "Glamma" to two grandsons. She's helped countless families secure their income, build generational wealth, and retire with confidence.

Julie shares financial literacy through her church and is working with the board to launch financial workshops for the local community—living out the calling of 1 Timothy 6:18: "...to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share."

Author's Bio. Lynette Rochelle



Lynette Rochelle is a creative, faith-driven leader and dedicated servant to her community. With a passion for helping individuals with intellectual and physical disabilities, she has served as a PCP throughout her career. She brings over 30 years of expertise in Early Childhood Education. Lynette has also served as an Activity Coordinator for children in her local housing community, dedicating her efforts to uplifting others.

As a Domestic Violence Advocate and volunteer, Lynette has served on the Board of Directors for Natalie's Place, a non-profit offering safe havens for women and children. In her roles as Secretary, Treasurer, and House Manager, she has played a key part in advancing the organization's mission.

Her entrepreneurial spirit is evident through The Event Assistant, a business she created to support non-profit events, camps, and conferences. Lynette's love for creativity is also showcased in Love Shells Décor, where she channels her passion for design by helping others repurpose furnishings and knickknacks they already have. Her creativity also shines through her work as a Prophetic Poetry Writer, Amateur Actress, and Singer.

Lynette is the CEO of Living in Transition, LLC and host of Living in Transition: The Fierce Podcast (LIT!). Through her podcast, she creates a space for transformative conversations about faith, healing, and personal growth. In 2023, her efforts were recognized with the ACHI Magazine Podcast of the Year Award and The Hampton Roads Silver Pin Podcast Award.

In 2024, Lynette received the Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award, the Founders Circle Award, and the ACHI Magazine Woman on the Rise Award. Her contributions to radio were further celebrated by the Hampton Roads Black Radio Announcer Association.

Lynette also shares her faith through her YouTube channel, Prayer Is The Essential Thing, where she provides encouragement and spiritual guidance.

Proudly married for 33 years, Lynette is the mother of a young adult son. In her free time, she enjoys Zumba, shopping, traveling, and road trips.

Lynette Rochelle's life reflects her commitment to service, creativity, and faith, inspiring others to overcome challenges and live with purpose.

LIT! by Grace to Carry the Light

Author's Bio.

Tiffany T. Williams



Tiffany T. Williams is a sister, a friend, a daughter, a lover of God's people, a worshipper and a praiser. She is the drummer and President of the Sunshine Band at her local church, This Rock Ministries Church of God In Christ under the Leadership of Pastor and Founder, Elder Tarik Hodge. She Is Saved, Sanctified Holy Ghost Filled and Fire baptized. She wears many hats in her local church as well as the District. She is an Intercessor with a ministry on Facebook that she started with her sisters in Christ named Prayer 911. Where she prays live, every Wednesday night at 9pm.

She is the Owner of CofG Personal Investment Firm where she's a visual media designer and a media coordinator. She Believes that With God everything is possible; because without Faith it is impossible to please God. You can find her on Facebook and Instagram under CofGPiFirm.

Author's Bio.

Dr. Stephanie Keys



A purpose-driven Chaplain Candidate and seasoned Development Director, Dr. Stephanie Keys brings a wealth of experience in non-profit leadership, strategic planning, and philanthropy, underscored by a profound dedication to community service and spiritual care. With an impressive tenure in event coordination and organizational development, Dr. Keys is celebrated for her innovative approaches to fundraising and event management, marked by securing major donations and cultivating pivotal partnerships. Her vast expertise also encompasses spiritual support, operational efficiency, and advocating for autism-related causes, significantly impacting The Miracle Project.

Areas of Expertise:

- Event Planning and Management
- Spiritual and Pastoral Care
- Fundraising and Donor Relations
- Non-Profit Administration
- Strategic Partnerships and Community Outreach
- Leadership in Autism Advocacy
- Project and Operations Management
- Public Speaking and Marketing

Professional Experience:

- My Friends House (Feb. 2009 – Present) Founding Partner & Director of Development
 - Masterminded development initiatives, securing sponsorships and in-kind gifts from Panera Bread and Trader Joe's.
 - Executed successful strategies for major gift acquisition, broadening donor base and community engagement.
 - Spearheaded event management, leading a dedicated team, and enhancing fundraising activities.
- Tommy Cat/You Go Boy/Indigo Productions/Monami Entertainment (Apr. 1989 – Mar. 2017) Development/Event Production/ Logistics
 - Orchestrated comprehensive travel and accommodation arrangements for high-profile clients and productions.
 - Managed estate and asset portfolios for entertainment legends, maintaining operational excellence across residences.
- Annie's Edibles (Feb. 2013 – Feb. 2015) Dietary Supervisor
 - Directed dietary operations, ensuring quality care and adhering to stringent health standards.
- Amazing Catering (Mar. 2003 – Aug. 2009) Founder, President, and Director Of Operations
 - Elevated a startup to a \$1 million enterprise, offering bespoke catering services to elite clientele.
- MPOWER Communications (Nov. 1999 – Feb. 2003) District Sales and Account Manager
 - Led a successful sales team, significantly boosting regional revenues and securing lucrative accounts.
- Anthony Robbins Research International (Mar. 1997 – Oct. 1999) Estate & Facilities Asset Manager
 - Managed prestigious properties and facilitated exclusive events, enhancing brand prestige and guest experiences.

Education:

- GIA/Global Humanitarian Award Doctorate (June 2023)
- Ministry College, ICCM/UCLA: Los Angeles, CA (June 2020)
- Marketing Supervision Certification, California State University, Sacramento, CA (Oct. 2009)
- Mini MBA-UCLA, Los Angeles, CA (Aug. 1994)

Community Leadership & Development:

Active participant and leader in various community and humanitarian initiatives, including Autism Speaks, Olympic Games 2015, and multiple faith-based community projects.

Dr. Keys's career is characterized by her exceptional organizational skills, her commitment to excellence, and her passion for contributing to societal betterment through various leadership and advocacy roles. Her spiritual guidance and business acumen have been instrumental in her substantial contributions to the communities and organizations she serves.

Author's Bio. Carol Payne



Carol Payne was born in Seattle, Washington, and raised in a Christian home where she and her family attended First A.M.E. Church. She completed her education through high school in Washington State before relocating to California, where she graduated from Dorsey High School.

Early in her journey, Carol became a member of Mount Pleasant Hill Baptist Church under the leadership of Reverend Goodlowe, where she faithfully served in the choir. She attended Southwest Junior College and worked in the administration office while pursuing her education. Later, she worked part-time at the Post Office while continuing her studies. After suffering a knee injury on the job that required surgery and rehabilitation, Carol's life took a new direction.

She joined New Antioch C.O.G.I.C. under the leadership of James and Barbara Lewis. There, she served as an Aspiring Missionary, choir member, Sunday School Teacher, and leader of the Women Aware Auxiliary, organizing seminars and women's events. Carol was also frequently invited to speak at various churches in the Los Angeles area, including Fellowship Baptist Church, All Nations Church, New Antioch, and others. During this time, God used her ministry to bring many souls to Christ, and signs and wonders followed.

Following an automobile accident, Carol paused from church activities for a season. However, the Lord placed it on her heart to host services in her home alongside another Evangelist. They faithfully held these gatherings for a year. Upon moving to the San Fernando Valley, she continued services until transportation challenges arose.

Later, Carol relocated to the Antelope Valley and joined Agape Christian Fellowship under the leadership of Pastor Albert and Mary Thompson. There, she served in the choir, Pastor's Aid Ministry, and preached regularly, eventually being ordained as an Evangelist and providing individual counseling.

The Lord then led her to Last Stop Before Heaven Gospel Church under Bishop Linda and Pastor Howard Shelley, where she completed Minister-in-Training courses and was ordained again as an Evangelist. Her service included leading the Food Ministry, overseeing L.S. Ministries (selling spiritual garments and oils), teaching Sunday School, serving on the preaching roster, and ministering as a Prophetic Intercessor.

Author's Bio. *Shatoia Perry*



Shatoia Perry, a devoted wife and small business entrepreneur, proudly serves as President of the Purity Class at This Rock Ministries C.O.G.I.C. In addition to her leadership within the church community, Shatoia is the passionate host and founder of the podcast Queen U Were Built 4 This. Through her platform, she empowers women from all walks of life to embrace their inner Queen and confidently step into the divine authority God has given them.

Founder / Author's Bio. Dr. Tyara Lee (h.c.)



Dr. Tyara Lee (h.c.), affectionately known as Coach Tee, is a devoted wife, mother, Pastor, and distinguished international speaker. She holds a degree in Social and Behavioral Sciences and has been honored with an Honorary Doctorate Certificate from GIA Global Alliance International University in recognition of her outstanding contributions to leadership and community development over 100,000 hours of work. Dr. Lee's life and ministry are firmly anchored in the transformative principles of Educate, Empower, and Encourage, values that shape her influence and define her purpose-driven work.

As the visionary Founder of Christian Women Who Blossom and The GEM Community Center, a recognized 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Organization, Dr. Lee is a tireless advocate for the redemptive and transformative power of education, resources, and faith. Her work is dedicated to equipping individuals, fortifying families, and cultivating hope, healing, and purpose within the community. Through her leadership, she inspires others to embrace their God-given potential and pursue lives of significance, resilience, and excellence.

Known for her dynamic ability to motivate and mentor, Coach Tee Lee affirms, "With hard work, dedication, determination, and drive, you can achieve anything you set your mind to. If you stumble, you have the strength to rise again and succeed, because the power is in your hands."

Her life's mission beautifully echoes the truth of
1 John 4:7 (NIV)

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God.

Dr. Tyara Lee stands as a beacon of faith, perseverance, and empowerment, a woman committed to igniting purpose and birthing possibilities in the lives of others, both near and far.

Congratulations!

Vol. 3 2025 Authors

To Our Incredible Authors,

Thank you for saying yes to this remarkable journey and for lending your voices, your hearts, and your wisdom to this book collaboration. Your willingness to share your stories, your lessons, and your faith has not only enriched these pages but has sown seeds of hope, healing, and inspiration into the lives of countless readers.

Your contributions remind us that when women come together with courage, authenticity, and purpose we create something far greater than ourselves. Together, you have helped build a tapestry of strength, resilience, and faith that will bless others for years to come.

May you continue to blossom in your gifts, walk boldly in your calling, and trust that your words will reach exactly who they were meant to. Thank you for being a vital and beautiful part of this collaboration.

With deepest gratitude and admiration,
The GEM Community Center & Coach Tee Lee

Proverbs 31:25-26

