

MARIAN EDELMAN

Prayers for Mother's Day

WASHINGTON, D.C. - On Mother's Day, I often return to this passage attributed to Edmond McDonald in the Presbyterian Outlook: "When God wants an important thing done in this world or a wrong righted, He goes about it in a very singular way. He doesn't release thunderbolts or stir up earthquakes. God simply has a tiny baby born, perhaps of a very humble home, perhaps of a very humble mother. And God puts an idea or purpose into the mother's heart."



recognition and praise for her devoted caregiving, she said, "I'm not an American hero, I'm a person that loves children."

On this Mother's Day weekend I again offer special prayers for all those loving and caring for children today.

A new baby is born; A new gift of life; A new gift of love; A new gift of joy; A new gift of hope; Make us good stewards of Your faith in the future.

** Dear God, I thank You for the gift of this child to raise, this life to share, this mind to help mold, this body to nurture, and this spirit to enrich.

Let me never betray this child's trust, dampen this child's hope, or discourage this child's dreams.

Help me dear God to help this precious child become all You mean him to be.

Let your grace and love fall on him like gentle breezes and give him inner strength and peace and patience for the journey ahead.

** God, help me to weave a tapestry of love and not hate in my children, a spirit of tolerance and caring, and a dedication to freedom for all and not just some. God, help me to sow seeds of peace and justice in my children's hearts today.

** Oh God, help us to be worthy of the children You have entrusted to our care.

And she puts it in the baby's mind, and then—God waits. The great events of this world are not battles and elections and earthquakes and thunderbolts. The great events are babies, for each child comes with the message that God is not yet discouraged with humanity, but is still expecting goodwill to become incarnate in each human life." And so God produces the leaders, artists, activists, and thinkers who go on to change the world. How many of them were blessed to be spurred on in childhood by a mother's boundless encouragement and faith, or her determination to make a way out of no way?

This is a time to celebrate those mothers and other caregivers who sow seeds of life and hope for the future. I think of examples like Mother Clara Hale, who raised three children as a young widow during the Depression while providing full-time live-in child care for other families in her five-room Harlem apartment, then became a licensed foster parent and raised 40 more children over the next two decades, and then, at age 65, began caring for infants and children who were born addicted to drugs or HIV-positive, eventually caring for 1,000 more children over another 20 years. She described her essential technique for caring for all of them: "Hold them, rock them, love them, and tell them how great they are." And though she ultimately received widespread

Hostile Society Cont'd from page A3

Have you built a firm foundation regarding your core values and what really matters in life. Having faith can be a stabilizing force in any situation, it is also important to believe in the higher good. When we have strong beliefs, they provide us with the integrity to do the difficult things during hard times. Sometimes standing up for what is right and good can be difficult. Sometimes we must go against the grain. We also must develop resilience to withstand adversity and know that we can get through anything together.

I believe there are more kind people than negative people in the world. We must educate ourselves with what is going on and what is causing the hostility. If we can get to the root of a situation, it opens the opportunity to have the right conversations for potential healing and diffusing

the situation. In the world there will always be people who will do whatever they feel is necessary to gain power and control which can cause a hostile situation, but at the end of the day we must be the light when the world goes dark. Remember the more you know about a situation the better chance you have at helping to squelch it and bring peace.

Seek like-minded people who can join you in making a difference. We are always stronger together than alone. When emotional intelligence, empathy, love, and kindness come into play, we can be a bridge builder and have a positive impact on society. This sort of outcome has the potential to make all of us victorious.

Healing Without Hate: It's a choice. It's a lifestyle. Pass it on.

Visit www.WendyGladney.com and www.forgivingforliving.org to learn more. Wendy is a life strategist, coach, consultant, author, and speaker.

In-Demand Careers Every New College Grad Should Know About

STATEPOINT - So you've recently graduated college. The summer ahead is the perfect time to consider a career as a financial planner. At a time when new research reveals that more than half of four-year college graduates are underemployed a year after they graduate, the financial planning industry is booming.

To give yourself a competitive edge when you're just starting out, consider earning your CFP® certification. CFP® certification is the standard in financial planning and paves the way for an exceptional career.

Here's what you need to know about a career as a financial advisor with CFP® certification, also known as a CFP® professional:

You can gain financial stability: When you're young, it's important to pay down any student debt and begin saving for the future as early as possible. That's difficult to do in industries with low starting wages. While financial planning salaries vary, you can expect to earn \$50-70K as a starting point. And there's a lot of room for growth — experienced financial advisors earn \$192,000 on average.

You'll enjoy job security: Many industries are experiencing widespread layoffs and instability, but financial planning is a career path offering job security and growth. In fact, the Bureau of Labor Statistics predicts that the demand for financial advisors will grow quickly, at a rate of 13% through 2032.

You'll use a wide range of skills: Financial planning isn't just numbers and math. The job requires great communication skills and a high level of emotional intelligence to guide clients



through the psychology behind their money management.

You can forge your own path: Financial advising is not a one-size-fits-all career path. You can choose to specialize in a particular area of finance or take a holistic approach to your clients' needs. Where you work is also up to you — you might work at a nationally known financial services firm, a small local firm or even a bank or credit union. Because of the commitment to professional excellence and high ethical standards it demonstrates, gaining your CFP® certification will unlock even more career opportunities. Many CFP® professionals even start their own business early in their careers.

You'll be helping others: CFP® professionals build trusted relationships with their clients, helping people achieve their life goals, whether that's buying a home, paying for their children's college educations or preparing for retirement.

You can design your own schedule: After four years of scheduling classes to suit your needs, the idea of rigid working hours may not be appealing. Fortunately, financial advising can come with scheduling flexibility and a good work-life balance.

You'll find support along the way: As you work toward CFP® certification, you'll have many opportunities for ongoing support. An online candidate forum offers

opportunities to connect with others on their path to certification. Other resources include a progress tracker, exam preparation tools, financial aid and three mentorship cycles a year that align with the exams offered. Additionally, the CFP Board's Career Center can help you find your footing after you get certified.

For more information about becoming a financial planner, visit CFP.net.

As you spend the summer months looking back on and celebrating all your hard work over the last four years, don't forget to make an investment in your future. Pursuing CFP® certification can lead to a rewarding, profitable career as a financial planner.

University's First Black Graduate Hands His Granddaughter Her Diploma 59 Years Later

ATLANTA, GA - On a momentous graduation day at Georgia Tech, history came full circle as Ronald Yancey, the university's first Black graduate, proudly handed his granddaughter, Deanna Yancey, her diploma 59 years after he made history and broke barriers at the institution.

At Georgia Tech's recent graduation ceremony in McCamish Pavilion, countless students celebrated the culmination of their years of hard work. Among them was Deanna, who proudly earned her master's degree in electrical and computer engineering, according to WALB.

For Deanna, this achievement held special significance. Her grandfather, Ronald Yancey, was the first Black graduate of Georgia



Georgia Tech's first Black graduate Ronald Yancy hands his granddaughter Deanna Yancy her college diploma.

Tech. A statue of him stands in Clough Commons, symbolizing the barriers he broke and the doors he opened for future generations.

Reflecting on her journey, Deanna remarked, "He's broken barriers and he's opened doors that I will never have to experience

opening myself." Having completed her undergraduate studies at Penn State, Deanna chose Georgia Tech for her master's degree, considering it one of the nation's top engineering schools.

On her graduation day, she not only received her diploma but also had the honor of being congratulated by her grandfather, Ronald Yancey, who presented it to her.

"I couldn't thank Georgia Tech enough," Deanna expressed, acknowledging the significance of her grandfather's legacy and the opportunities it provided her.

Ronald Yancey's pioneering spirit continues to inspire current and future students at Georgia Tech.

"It's just beyond me how someone could be so strong in such a hard time," she said.

Navigating the Double Bind: The Impact of Direct Leadership on the Wellness of Black Womxn Educational Leaders

LAVERNE, CA - New university study focuses on strategies used to preserve well-being and flourish and impacts of practices and direct supervisor behaviors on health and productivity.

Resistance to change, limited resources, keeping up with the changing landscape of education, addressing the unique needs of students and communities... these are some of the common challenges among education leaders today.

But for Black womxn educational leaders, those issues are compounded by barriers and social injustices that only those in this specific double-bind share and experience.

Kimberlé W. Crenshaw's framework of intersectionality provides a critical lens to understand the nuances and multifaceted challenges faced by Black women leaders in academia. It underscores the importance of recognizing the intersections of race, gender, and other social identities in addressing inequality and creating more inclusive spaces within academic institutions.

This is the framework that University of La Verne Professor Yvette C. Latunde, a national speaker and education expert in organizational and equitable leadership, will use in new research



on Black womxn educational leadership.

Latunde asks, "How do we change the system? How do we change leaders and make them aware of the impact that they have on real people? How do we change generic policies and put an equity lens on it?"

"If we design the academy and roles with the most marginalized people in mind, everyone will be served well," says Latunde, who hopes to help institutions create vision and strategies that address climate, culture, supports, safety, prevention, interventions, accountability and alignment of policies. Latunde is launching a new study

through University of La Verne grants on the impact of direct leaders' behaviors on the wellness of Black womxn educational leaders. She also wants to learn about the strategies Black womxn leaders use to thrive as they lead. She aims to find correlations between leadership styles and wellness strategies and learn about opportunities to support and protect the transformative leadership and well-being of Black education leaders.

In education in general, white women tend to be overrepresented in educational leadership, while white men are the predominant voice in educational leadership literature and books, according to Latunde. When reflecting on black women leaders though, Latunde says she thinks of the plaintiffs from Brown V. the Board of Education — mothers and community leaders; Mary McLeod Bethune, who saw a need to start a school for African American girls which eventually became a college and is the only female founder of a only Historically Black College and University (HBCU); and Gloria Ladson-Billings, a big name in cultural sustaining practices in the classroom.

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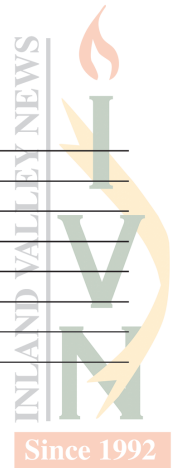
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