

Glenda Mack

Ms. Glenda Mack is a good writer, and she wrote most of her story down before I even interviewed her. She is a lifetime resident of Sandtown, and she attended elementary school at P.S. 112 at Laurens and Calhoun, middle school at Douglass on Calhoun, and high school at Douglass on Gwynns Falls. She attained a GED and then an A.A. degree in Mental Health from BCCC.

Ms. Glenda has nothing but praise for her grandmother, for whom the Pauline Fauntleroy Playfield on the 1300 block of Stricker Street is named. “Everything I am I owe to my grandmother. She made me to be determined, to have a social conscience and be socially involved, and to dream.” And of course Ms. Glenda loves her family. “I am thankful that I have my mother and five generations still with me. I was married to George Mack for more than 20 years, and we have 17 children between us. I have 31 grandchildren and 14 great-grandchildren.” And although she obtained her degree in Mental Health, “I never fulfilled my dream of going to work because I stayed home to raise my grandkids.”

Ms. Glenda loves to sing (get her in the choir, Darryl!), and she belongs to the Eastern Stars where she is a member of the choir. She says she is loved for her fried chicken: “I cook with love.” Although she used to use restaurant-sized pots to cook for her many children, now “I hate to cook but I love to eat!”

Ms. Glenda learned one of her most important mottoes from her grandmother: “Do unto others as you would have them do unto you,” and she says “I love my family and my fellow man.” She used to attend worship services at St. Gregory’s, but “when my grandkids became a part of New Song I knew that’s where I belonged also. I love my church family! There is no way to express the way I feel about being loved unconditionally by everyone here!” Ms. Glenda so obviously exudes love and joy; no matter what the circumstances, she always finds the bright side. And she has certainly followed in the steps of her grandmother when it comes to involvement in her community, including serving on the Board of Directors of Sandtown Habitat for many years. She approached Mayor Schmoke in 1998 about having the 1500 block of Stricker Street designated as “Episcopal Way” in honor of the many Episcopal congregations who sponsored Habitat homes on the block, and the ceremony took place in June of 1999.

Two other things Ms. Glenda wanted to make sure were included: first, “I have a lifetime friend and sister, Geraldine, who I love dearly!” And secondly, “When I attended New Song I didn’t know the joy of what was to come: when Thurman and Evie took my grandkids in and loved them as their own!”