



October 26, 2020

Apostle Tonya Blount
Founder and President
Esther Crown Ministries, Inc.
1549 Prospect Place #3B
Brooklyn, NY 11233

Re: Letter from Borough President Adams in recognition of the life of Bertha Mae Vaughn

Dear Apostle Blount:

As Brooklyn's borough president, I am proud to represent a constituency of 2.6 million residents made up of a diverse array of communities that are truly a microcosm of the vastness of America. One of those constituencies is our faith community, which earned Brooklyn the nickname, "Borough of Churches," and it was as a member of this faith community in which the late, great, proud Brooklynite, Bertha Mae Vaughn, was a driving force.

Although Bertha, known as "Mother Vaughn," left us in 2008, her powerful legacy of faith endures to this day. While serving as a devoted member of Crown Heights' Solid Rock Pentecostal Fellowship Church, in addition to being recording secretary, she was revered as both "church mother" as well as devotional leader, where she was known and is fondly remembered for her compassion, faithfulness, joy, and wisdom.

Faith plays a vital role in our communities; indeed, it is the fabric that binds us together and compels us to work toward the greatest of goods, to uplift our neighbors and those who have fallen on hard times. Buoyed by her faith, for more than a decade Mother Vaughn gave back to our greater One Brooklyn community through her volunteer work at PS 316 Elijah G. Stroud Elementary and the Jackie Robinson After School Program, as well as being a beloved leader in her own Crown Heights community.

After Mother Vaughn departed this earthly life, long lines of those whose lives were impacted by her could be seen stretching from blocks from her church on the evening of her public viewing. As you gather to honor her remarkable life at Dr. Ronald McNair Park on October 27th, I pray

those who knew and loved her continue her legacy of faith and gratitude, while working to strengthen their own faith and uplift their neighbors in need.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Eric L. Adams". The letters are fluid and connected, with a distinct loop for the 'L' and a trailing flourish at the end of the name.

Eric Adams
Brooklyn Borough President

EA/ek