



Judy (Mona Morenike) Pendergrass-Chui Moore was born in Cleveland, Ohio to Lee Andrew Burns and Ernestine Burns (Thomas). She is the youngest of their three daughters. When Mona was 9 years old her family moved to Washington, DC where she quickly made friends and excelled in school. Mona was always a good student and enjoys working with children. At 11 she began teaching reading and math to nursery children at Ujamaa Shule an independent African School.

Mona attended McKinley Technical High School in Washington DC where she was a cheerleader and challenged herself with college preparatory classes. She received a full scholarship to study engineering at Tuskegee. At Tuskegee she tutored classmates in algebra, economics and calculus and was a yearbook photographer. Mona graduated Tuskegee earning a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering with honors.

After graduation, Mona moved to Los Angeles where she found an opportunity to support youth education by participating in the Los Angeles Council of Black Professional Engineers scholarship committee. After two years in LA, Mona headed back to her roots, Cleveland! There she worked as an engineer developing software and specifying instrumentation for new facilities. She volunteered at the African American Museum and served as a Junior Achievement instructor at her neighborhood school. Influenced by her dad and a desire for change, Mona moved to Detroit, Michigan in 1988.

Mona has two sons, Kamau and Khalid. She continued to be committed to youth education and found herself taking on leadership roles at her boys' school, Nataki Talibah Schoolhouse of Detroit. At Nataki she held several roles in the Parent Association working to improve school-community engagement for over 13 years.

Intrigued by beautiful neighborhoods and unique housing in Detroit, Mona obtained Real Estate Sales and Builder and Residential Contractor licenses. This knowledge turned out to be helpful when she accepted a new role at M2 International as the Program Manager for Detroit Metropolitan Airport Sound Insulation Program in 1997. In this position she was able to foster cooperative relationships between contractors and homeowners to meet program objectives. This year Mona celebrates 15 years working with DTE where she is a Project Manager for major capital construction projects in renewable energy and facilities.

Sister Mona joined the Shrine of the Black Madonna in Detroit on June 22, 2008 where she met and later married the love of her life, Bishop Mbiyu Chui Moore. On Sundays, Mona offers a friendly greeting to all serving on the Usher Board. She also served on the Stewardship Committee, led the pilgrimage to Beulah Land and plans other Nation events. Mona is active in the Women's Ministry, Food Warriors and Freedom School youth programs. She serves as President of the Blanche Kelso Bruce Academy formerly an alternative school for youth outside the educational mainstream and is Treasurer of the Tiger Sharks Swim Team of Detroit. This swim team uses swimming as a platform to build strength of character, physical fitness and social responsibility. Mona is a lifetime member of the NAACP, Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History and Detroit Peoples Food Coop.