

The Union Baptist Church Newsletter

Reverend Dr. Orlando B. Yates, Senior Pastor



Volume 15, Issue: 4

Spring 2024

A Meditation for You from Our Pastor

New Beginnings

It is of the Lord's mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.

They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

(Lamentations 3:22-23 KJV)

Greetings Union:

Spring is approaching. Praise the Lord! We have so many reasons to celebrate the newness that it brings, including the following:

1. New Life and Resurrection:

Spring is a season of renewal and new beginnings. Just as nature awakens from its winter slumber, Christians associate spring with the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ.

Easter, the central event of our faith, occurs during spring. It commemorates Jesus' victory over death and His rising from the grave.

2. God's Creative Nature

Spring showcases God's **creativity**. Take a closer look at the delicate petals of a daffodil, the beautiful budding of the hostages and begonias, or the vibrant flight of a bluebird or cardinal.

God's creativity extends beyond nature; it's evident in your unique life story. Your testimony is unlike anyone else's, and through Jesus' sacrificial death, new life blooms.

3. Joy and Transformation:

After a long, cold winter, the arrival of spring brings **joy**. Green leaves appear, flowers bloom, and smiles abound.

Similarly, when a person turns to Jesus, joy floods their soul. The gospel transforms hearts, replacing spiritual dreariness with abundant life.

4. God's Faithfulness:

Just as we trust that spring will arrive each year, we can rely on God's **faithfulness**. He forgives our sins and offers new beginnings.

Like leaves falling to the ground, we must die to ourselves to allow new growth. God's faithfulness ensures that life follows death, both in nature and in our spiritual journey.

The season of Lent is now, and it invites each of us to examine our brokenness and spiritual hunger. It prepares us for the Resurrection Celebration or Easter by reminding us that we need the Savior, that we are lost without God's grace. We can't save ourselves or fix all our problems. We are dust and ashes, lost and blind without God's mercy. Let us repent of any prideful attitudes that we may have. Trust God and allow Him to direct our paths and lean not unto our own understanding and He will direct our paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

(Continued)

Hope and healing are on the way, so let us rejoice as God works His perfect plans out through each of us. Our hearts should be filled with praise for all that God has done and will do for us. He has changed the focus and purpose of our lives because He sent His Son Jesus to pay penalty for our sin debt. If you have not done so, accept the Lord Jesus by faith as your Lord and Savior today and receive the gift of eternal life. Just as Lent's call to humility is good for our hearts, clinging to the hope of better days can bring us healing. We can let go of our fears and worries. We can look ahead with joyful anticipation. That's the promise of Spring, and even more, the promise of resurrection. God has good things in store that will renew our rejoicing.

As we kindle this hope, we also remember that life in this world will have troubles and sorrows. There will be other global crises and personal tragedies. On this side of heaven, we will walk through more dark valleys, but God will walk with us in those tough times just as He has walked with us through the years of the pandemic. His promises don't change with the seasons. His love lasts through the dark nights. Rejoicing will come again in the morning. When we consider the greatness of God's love, His grace in sending Jesus Christ to die for us and rise again, and what He has delivered us from, we cannot keep from praising Him and proclaiming to others how He changed our lives! Amen.

-Selected

Worship Services and Christian Education

Sunday at 8:30 a.m. - Worship service on Spectrum Cable TV (Channels 8 and 979) and on Cincinnati Bell Fioptics TV (Channel 850).

Sunday at 9:30 am to 10:20 am - Sunday Bible Church School (In person/meets in Sanctuary).

Sunday at 9:30 am to 10:20 am - New Members Class (In person/ meets in the first-floor classroom).

Sunday at 10:45 a.m. - In-Person and Livestream Worship Service on YouTube and Facebook.

Tuesday at 6:30 a.m. - You are invited to join us for meditation and online prayer via Zoom. (Zoom ID: 845 3234 7314; Passcode: 208170). Prayer Band Ministry

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m. - Weekly "Call-Em-All" devotional message from Pastor Yates.

Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.- 8 p.m. Men's Bible Study and Fellowship. Pastor Yates is the Lead Teacher.

Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. - Word Wednesday Bible Study (Facebook Live) led by Pastor Yates on the business page of UBC Facebook and UBC YouTube channel.

Saturday at 8:00 a.m. - UBC Radio Broadcast (WCVG 1320). The UBC Radio Broadcast is also available to stream online at the following link: <https://www.radio.net/s/wcvg>

Saturday at 1:00 p.m. - Saturday Church School Bible Study. The class is held via phone call-in: 1-267-807-9605 (code 344097). The teacher is Sis. Faye Shirley.



BIRTHDAY BLESSINGS TO EVERYONE BORN IN THE MONTHS OF MARCH, APRIL AND MAY



REPORTING ILLNESSES, SURGERIES AND BEREAVEMENT INFORMATION: Please contact the church office if you or a loved one is sick or entering the hospital so that your Family Ward Deacon and Pastor Yates may be notified. Please also contact the office if you or a loved one is being released from the hospital or if there is bereavement in your family. The church office phone number is **(513) 381-3858, ext. 3**.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER MINISTRY: Please continue to keep in prayer our UBC members in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, hospitals and at home. Please also continue to pray for all of the bereaved families at Union and bereaved families all over the world.

UBC WEBSITE - GIVING: There are two methods of giving on the website: *Tithely and Givelify*. **Please visit the website and click on the "Give" tab for more information and check out the video** at www.union-baptist.net. Thank you.

EMAIL ADDRESS REMINDER: In addition to church newsletters and call-em-all messages, you can also receive emails to stay informed with other UBC updates. You can call and leave your email address at the church voicemail box at 513-852-1638 or email to Public Relations Ministry at publicity@union-baptist.net. God Bless!

MESSAGE FROM UBC SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Greetings Union,

On behalf of the Sunday School Ministry this is our Spring update:

We are happy to announce the Adult **Sunday Bible School Class is back in session**. We are meeting in person at the church **from 9:30 am to 10:20 am each Sunday** under the balcony in the sanctuary. **Rev. Wyatt is the lead teacher** and we have enjoyed the classes this past month. We are asking anyone who is interested in being a co-teacher for the class to please speak with Pastor Yates or myself (Dea. Norman). **Sis. Faye Shirley** also teaches a Saturday class, if you are interested in attending her class.

We have not forgotten about our children. We would like for the children to attend Sunday school classes as well, but I need to hear from our parents. We look forward to seeing everyone, so please join us, you will be blessed.

Deacon Ernest Norman/Sunday School Superintendent

MENS MINISTRY: All men are invited to attend the weekly Men's Ministry Fellowship and Bible Class series on **Tuesdays** at the church from **7:00 pm to 8:00 pm**. For the exciting DVD series featuring Dr. Tony Evans. **Pastor Yates is the lead teacher**.

GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION IN-PERSON & LIVE-STREAMED: On **March 29, 2024** from **12 noon to 2:00 pm**. Several area ministers will deliver the seven last words of Jesus on the cross. Come when you can and leave when you must. Parking will be available.

EASTER SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM: will be held on **Sunday, March 31, 2023**, from **9:30am to 10:20am** in the sanctuary under the leadership of **Dr. Raven Spratley**, Children's Ministry Leader and **Bro. Richard Spratley**, Assistant Children's Ministry Leader; and assisted by the PDYM, Music, Drama and Praise Dance Ministries. Treats will be passed out afterwards by the Sunday School Leadership, Deacon Ernest Norman and Deacon Donald Darby.

THANK YOU FROM THE HUBBARD FAMILY: Thanks to Union Baptist Church for their prayers during our time of illness. We are both doing better. We ask the church to keep us in your prayers. Dorsey and Elaine Hubbard.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)



Please see **Sis. Annette Bell, Health and Wellness Ministry Leader** for additional information.

March is Stewardship Emphasis Month

ANNUAL FAMILY OBSERVANCE OF HOLY COMMUNION: Sunday, **March 3, 2024**, In-Person and Livestream on YouTube and Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, **March 10, 2024**, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, **March 17, 2024**, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, **March 24, 2024**, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m. (includes the traditional waving of the Palms).

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE (THE SEVEN LAST WORDS): Friday, **March, 29, 2024**, In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live and YouTube from **12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m.**

EASTER SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM & EASTER RESURRECTION WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, **March 31, 2024**. Children and Youth Easter Program from **9:30 am to 10:20 am** and Easter Worship Service In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live and YouTube at **10:45 am**.

Easter Blessing

This Easter,
rejoice in the loving, gracious promise
of the resurrected Christ.
New Life and
eternal hope.
He is risen indeed!

~Isabella Yosunico, Guideposts



INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

April is Discipleship Emphasis Month

WORSHIP CELEBRATION AND HOLY COMMUNION: Sunday, **April 7, 2024**, In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live at **10:45 a.m.**

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, **April 14, 2024**, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, **April 21, 2024**, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

SECOND QUARTER CHURCH CONFERENCE: Friday, **April 26, 2024** in UBC Sanctuary at **6:00 p.m.**

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, **April 28, 2024**, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

Union Baptist Church Spring Cleanup of Union Baptist Cemetery 4933 Cleves Warsaw Pike Cincinnati, OH 45238



Volunteers Needed
Saturday, April 29, 2024
9 AM - 1 PM

Cleaning Headstones and Markers
Clearing Debris
Trimming Grass and Vegetation

Sign up: <https://bit.ly/ubcspringcleanup>
Donate Here: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/TUF-Cemetery>

Questions? Contact
ubccemeteryvolunteers@gmail.com
Phone # 513-853-1653

***Please bring work gloves and tools if possible**

***Rain Date May 6th**

May is Family Emphasis Month

WORSHIP CELEBRATION AND HOLY COMMUNION: Sunday, **May 5, 2024**, In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live at **10:45 a.m.**

ANNUAL MOTHER'S DAY OBSERVANCE AND WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, **May 12, 2024** In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION AND ANNUAL COMBINED CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUNDAY: Sunday, **May 19, 2024** In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, **May 26, 2024**, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE: Monday, **May 27, 2024** (Church Office Closed)

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES: Monday, **May 27, 2024** at both historic cemeteries: **United American Cemetery** and **Union Baptist Cemetery** at **12 noon**

**Union Baptist Church, Annual Go Red Sunday,
February 11, 2024
The Health and Wellness Ministry
Thank everyone for coming out in Red**



INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Cemetery Ministry Update

On **February 22, 2024**, our cemeteries hosted a program at the University of Cincinnati "The Power of Archival History in the future of African American Communities. **Dr. Meredith Evans**, appointed Director of the President Jimmy Carter Library and Museum was our guest speaker. Participants attended in person and joined us online for the program.



Dr. Meredith Evans
Guest Speaker



Leo Yakutis
Senior Tech Advisor to UBC



Deacon Darrell Phillips
Union Foundation



Dr. Holly McGee
UC Black Studies Professor

The **Union Foundation secured a \$750,000 grant** from the National Park Services for the preservation and restoration for United Colored American Cemetery.

<https://www.wvxu.org/local-news/2024-02-26/historical-black-cemetery-madisonville-federal-preservation-grant>

There is so much exciting information about our cemeteries, go to Union Baptist Church Facebook Page for more information.

~~Sis. Louise Stevenson, Union Cemetery Advisory Committee Chairman

Trustee Ministry Update

"As each one has received a gift, use it to serve one another as good stewards of God's varied grace." 1 Peter 4:10.

The Union Baptist Church Trustee Ministry salutes the UBC congregation for supporting the mission work of the church in 2023. As a result of your financial stewardship, the church has been able to contribute to the ministry work of the following organizations:

City Gospel Mission
Western Union Baptist District Association
National Baptist Convention Home Mission Board
National Baptist Convention Foreign Mission Board
Martin Luther King, Jr. Coalition
Shelterhouse of Cincinnati
University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff, Joseph Carter Corbin Memorial Scholarship
The Union Foundation

*Thank
You*

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Women's Ministry Update

The UBC Women's Ministry plans to restart its mission work at Matthew 25 Ministries in April 2024. We are trying to schedule the 2nd or third Saturday in April. More information will be forthcoming.

Future Ministry Dates: May 9, 2020
July 11, 2020
September 19, 2020
November 14, 2020



Women's Day 2024 Update



The annual UBC Women's Day will occur on **Sunday, September 22, 2024** at the 10:45 a.m. service.

The women of Union are asked to give an **offering of \$100.00** in support of Women's Day 2024.

More information regarding Women's Day will be forthcoming.

Union Baptist Scholarship Ministry Update

The UBC Scholarship Ministry would like to congratulate **Sis. Tristan Cargile** who obtained her B.S. in Health Sciences from Northern Kentucky University!

The Hope of Spring

God, thank you for Spring and the hope of warmer, longer, brighter days.

Thank you for the coming of growth and life and birth.

Thank you that things are coming awake in the world.

This is what our calendar says, and we do see some signs that it is real.

But we also still struggle with the residual layover of winter.

Now we ask that you bring into reality all that belongs in this season.

Your word says that we will have provision, and hope, and joy, and health and loving relationships here and now in this life.

We ask that what belongs in this season would become actual in our practical lives.

We hope in you and in your promises. We hope in your gift of Spring.

- Author Unknown (jesuitresource.com)



INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Union Baptist Church
Health and Wellness Ministry



**DR. ORLANDO B. YATES, PASTOR,
ANNETTE I. BELL, R.D., L.D., MINISTRY LEADER**

Interested in Joining the
Health and Wellness Ministry?
Call Us!!!



Mission:

1. To promote health and wellness to the church congregation and the community.
2. During the church services:
 - a. To give urgently proper care, via CPR, and/or first aid, to a member or visitor who becomes sick or injured.
 - b. To serve the Pastor, Ministers and Guest Speakers with juice or water.
3. To provide, promote, and encourage a positive life style change as it relates to the entire being in spirit, mind, body, and relationships; first giving honor to God.

Vision:

To be known as a ministry who increases awareness of health-related issues by providing opportunities for the church congregation and community to receive the necessary tools for improving/maintaining their overall wellness spiritually, mentally, physically, and socially.

Scriptures Ministry is based on:

1. "Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have from God, you are not your own? you were bought at a price. ...Therefore glorify God in your body..." (1 Corinthians 6:19-20, NIV)
2. "Dear friend, I pray that you may enjoy good health and that all go well with you, even as your soul is getting along well." (3 John 2, NIV)

Who May Become a member?

1. Any dedicated church or community member.
2. Medical professionals, other professionals, high-school students, or any dedicated person.
3. Male or female over sixteen years of age.
4. Any member who has completed First Aid, CPR, and Blood Pressure certification training is a plus.

Who do you Contact if Interested in Being a Part of the Ministry or have questions?

Sister Annette I. Bell, R.D., L.D., at 513-601-8767

405 West 7th Street
Cincinnati, OH 45203
Phone: 513-381-3858 or 513-601-8767
Email: aibellwellness@yahoo.com

Union Baptist Church of Cincinnati Website

For more information about historic Union Baptist Church, please visit our website (www.union-baptist.net) which is **both informative and interactive** for those who are seeking the Will of God in their lives. On our website, you will see upcoming events; evangelistic missions inclusive for men, women and children; discipleship opportunities for building God's kingdom; exploratory devotional links for personal spiritual growth; and, community connections that have demonstrated, in the past, and continue to demonstrate, the POWER OF GOD throughout the Greater Cincinnati area, and historically beyond. UBC's newsletter is also posted on the website in color.

Grow
in Christ