

The Union Baptist Church Newsletter

Reverend Dr. Orlando B. Yates, Senior Pastor



Volume 17, Issue: 4

Fall 2026

A Meditation for You from Our Pastor

Walking Together Through the Blessings of Autumn

As I have loved you, you must love one another. - John 13:34 NIV

This scripture reminds us that we are all vessels of God's love. May we all be encouraged and inspired to spread God's love, kindness, and forgiveness wherever we go! The turning of the seasons is one of God's most beautiful messages. As summer's warmth gives way to autumn's cooler weather and the world around us transforms into beautiful vibrant colors and shortened days, think of the blessings of the season. All these changes remind us that God is always at work, bringing new beauty, new lessons, and new opportunities into our lives.

Autumn is a season of both reflection and preparation. It invites us to look back with gratitude for what God has done and to look forward with hope for what He will yet accomplish. This year, our church family has walked through moments of joy, seasons of challenge, and countless reminders of God's faithfulness. As we step into this new chapter together, the Lord is calling us to embrace at least three important opportunities:

1. Deepening Fellowship Through Fall Ministry

We should seek opportunities to gather, serve, and grow through ministry. This is a time to renew opportunities where God's people meet, encourage one another, and extend His love and hope to the world.

When we share a meal, pray together, or simply listen to one another's stories, we are living out the Gospel in ways that words alone cannot. I encourage you to be intentional this season: invite a neighbor to join you, volunteer for a ministry team, or simply show up with a heart ready to bless others. Get involved in some form of Bible Study and grow in grace. Let all that you do show God's love in practical ways.

2. Engaging in Prayerful Civic Responsibility

This fall also brings an important moment for our nation — Election Day. As followers of Christ, we are called to be salt and light in every sphere of life, including our civic engagement. Voting is not just a right; it is a stewardship of the freedoms and responsibilities God has entrusted to us. Before we cast our ballots, let us first bend our knees in prayer. Let us seek God's wisdom, asking Him to guide our decisions and to raise up leaders who will act with integrity, justice, and compassion. And let us remember that while governments and policies may change, our ultimate hope rests in the eternal reign of Christ — a Kingdom that will never be shaken.

3. Cultivating a Heart of Thanksgiving

This November, we will gather with family and friends to celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday — a time to lift our voices in praise and to reflect on the countless ways God has been good to us. Gratitude is more than a polite response to blessings; it is more than tasty food and fellowship; it is a posture of the heart that transforms how we see the world. Remember everyday should be a day of thanksgiving!

Even in seasons of uncertainty, we can choose to give thanks because we know that God is working all things together for good. This year, I invite you to share a testimony — a moment when you saw God's hand at work, a prayer He answered, or a way He sustained you in difficulty. Your story may be the very encouragement someone else needs to keep going. As we journey through this season together, let us be a church that radiates hope in a world that often feels weary. Let us be quick to forgive, generous in love, and bold in sharing the Good News. Let us remember that every smile, every prayer, and every act of kindness

(continued) have the power to plant seeds of eternal impact.

As we enter the autumn season, it is God's way of calling us to attention: Wake up! Stay awake! Be prepared! Let us claim the colors of autumn in our lives. Brown holds for us stability, protection, endurance, and simplicity. Red holds for us passion, determination, love, and adventure. Orange holds balance, warmth, and freedom from our inner prisons, and burgundy holds harmony. Finally, purple in autumn leaves prompts our vast imaginations, depths of spirituality, transformation, and wisdom. The new colors of the autumn leaves are but a glimpse into the richness and diversity of the loving life moments God has in store for us. Therefore, we should stay awake and be present to all that really matters.

I thank God daily for each of you — for your faithfulness, your generosity, and your willingness to be the hands and feet of Jesus. Please remember — Your words, actions, and reactions matter. Your presence is a gift that can make a profound difference in someone's life. May we all keep shining God's Love, keep spreading God's Love, and keep sharing God's Love! May this autumn be a time of renewal for our souls, joy in our fellowship, and fruitfulness in our mission. And may we walk into the closing months of 2026 with hearts full of gratitude, eyes fixed on Christ, and hands ready to serve. **Amen. -Selected**



Worship Services and Christian Education

Sunday at 8:30 a.m. - Worship service on Spectrum Cable TV (Channel 8) 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 7:15 p.m.- 8:30 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 SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER



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.

EMAIL ADDRESS FROM THE CONGREGATION 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 an email address at the church voicemail box at 513-852-1638 or email directly to the Public Relations Ministry at publicity@union-baptist.net. God Bless!

UBC GIVING

There are several methods for giving your Tithes and offerings. You may use your smart phone or other smart device(s) to give your Tithes & Offerings by scanning the QR code. Or you may go to the UBC website at www.union-baptist.net/give and give at *Tithely and Givelify*. Thank you



MEN'S MINISTRY BIBLE CLASS

The Men's Bible Study and Fellowship opportunity will resume for the Fall Session at the Church beginning **Tuesday, September 15, 2026 at 7:15 pm to 8:30 pm** with a new and highly motivating Bible Study subject (to be announced later) and will be **taught by Pastor Yates**.

WORD WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY

Word Wednesday Bible Study **will resume on September 16, 2026**. All members of Union are encouraged to attend Word Wednesday Bible Study via Facebook Live and on YouTube on **Wednesdays at 7:30 p.m.** **Pastor Yates is the Lead Instructor.**

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Fall Sunday School Class will begin on September 6, 2026.

Rev. Alvin Wyatt continues as our lead instructor with Rev. Micheal Darden, and myself (Dea. Norman) as assistant instructors. We would like to see as many present as possible as Sunday school will give you a firm foundation in learning about God's word and what it means for us during these trying times. I'm still waiting to hear from parents concerning Sunday school for children. We can only prepare classes if we hear from you because Sunday school is very important for our youths as well. Please let me or Deacon Donald Darby know if there is an interest in children's Sunday school.

God bless and we hope to see you this Fall.

Deacon Ernest Norman /Sunday School Superintendent

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

**** PLEASE SAVE THE DATE FOR ALL UPCOMING UBC FALL EVENTS ****



UNION BAPTIST CEMETERY CLEANUP DAY

Saturday, September 12, 2026 ★ 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

*Theme: HONORING OUR VETERANS:
250 Years of Service in Life and Death*

HONORING HISTORY. PRESERVING LEGACY. SERVING TOGETHER.

OUR HISTORY

Union Baptist Church carries a powerful legacy of caring for veterans. In 1880, **John T. Crawford**, a white Civil War veteran, fulfilled a promise he made on the battlefield: to honor the Black soldiers who protected him. He willed his estate to establish the **Crawford Home for Aged Negro Men**, created especially for Black veterans. His gratitude became a lasting act of service—one that still inspires us today.

On September 12th, we continued that legacy.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Join us as we clean and beautify the historic **Union Baptist Cemetery**, the resting place of many community heroes and veterans. Bring your family, friends, and neighbors — all ages welcome.

★

Your service helps us **Remember**, **Educate**, and **Celebrate** every veteran laid to rest on these sacred grounds.



BE PART OF ARMED SERVICES HISTORY

Our time and effort will make a meaningful difference — just as John T. Crawford did over a century ago. Together, we honor the past while caring for the future.



OUR GOAL: 50 VOLUNTEERS

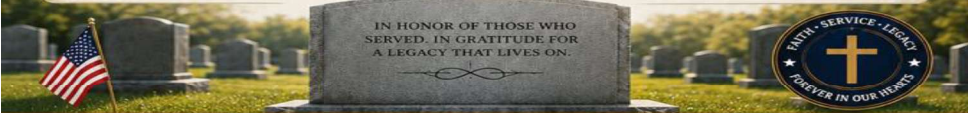
Let's come together to care for our cemetery and honor our veterans.



WHAT TO BRING

Any yard tools

- Rakes
- Shovels
- Pruners
- Gloves
- Wheelbarrows
- Any other tools you have that can help!



IN HONOR OF THOSE WHO SERVED. IN GRATITUDE FOR A LEGACY THAT LIVES ON.



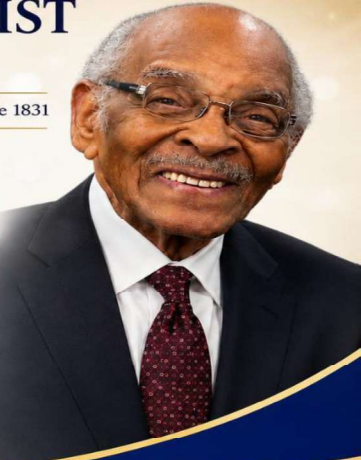
★ LET'S COME TOGETHER. SERVE TOGETHER. HONOR TOGETHER. ★

Thank You for Making a Difference!



UNION BAPTIST CHURCH

A Church on the Move for Christ Since 1831



Senior Citizen's & GRANDPARENT'S Day

Gray hair is a crown of glory;
it is gained in a righteous life.
Proverbs 16:31 (KJV)



SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 13, 2026



10:45 AM

Join us as we honor and celebrate our Seniors and Grandparents! Your wisdom, strength, and love continue to be a blessing to our church and community.

Guest Minister
REV. JAMES R. CHISLEY
Senior Pastor Emeritus
Calvary Missionary Baptist Church
Cincinnati, OH



*Honoring the Past...
Celebrating the Present...
Inspiring the Future!*



405 W. Seventh Street
Cincinnati, OH 45203



(513) 381-3858



www.union-baptist.net

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)



The poster is for the Union Baptist Church Women's Laity Day. It features a portrait of Shirley J. Jones, the guest speaker, on the right. The background is maroon with gold accents. The text includes the church's name, the event title, date, time, theme, scripture, and contact information.

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
A Church on the Move for Christ Since 1831

Women's LAITY DAY

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 27, 2026
10:45AM

THEME:
'Women Walking by Faith'

SCRIPTURE: PROVERBS 31:30
"Favour is deceitful, and beauty is vain:
but a woman that feareth the LORD,
she shall be praised."

GUEST SPEAKER:
Shirley J. Jones

**405 W. SEVENTH STREET
CINCINNATI, OH 45203** | **(513) 381-3858** | **www.union-baptist.net**

If you are interested in serving on the Women's Day Committee, please see **Sis. Yvonne Fairbanks, Chairperson** or **Sis. Candice Watson, Co-Chairperson**.

The colors for this celebration day will be Burgundy and Gold which symbolizes Christ's blood and God's divinity and eternal glory. Each woman of Union is asked to make a sacrificial offering of \$100.00. **submitted by Sis. Rogena Stargel**

~~~The Music Ministry is Looking to Grow! ~~~

Do you enjoy singing or playing an instrument? Do you feel a tug on your life to do more with music and you're afraid of where to start? Have you considered joining the choir but you just don't know where to start or feel you're not talented enough to contribute? We have news for you. You are exactly who God desires to serve, and the Music Ministry is looking for you! There is a home for all musical gifts in our music ministry. The Word of Life Choir, designed for adults 18 and up; Joy, a musical group specializing in praise and worship music; and our Male Chorus, comprised of men 18 and up, who have a desire to sing God's praises comprise our music department. Singers are needed as well as dedicated instrumentalists. Also, the Children's Ministry would love to have a dedicated music teacher to assist with more music involvement with our children. If any of these opportunities interest you, please reach out to Bro. Jay Bailey, Minister of Music, to express your interest and to discuss how you can become more involved in growing the ministry of music within your local congregation. God Bless you! **~~The UBC Music Ministry**

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

SAVE THE DATE

for the
Union Baptist Church 2026 Choir Day
Musical Workshop & Concert
Featuring guest clinicians:



Dr. Kathy W. Bullock
&
Mr. Eric V. Oliver

Musical Workshop Dates

- Thursday, October 8th 6:30-8:30pm
- Friday, October 9th 6:30-8:30pm
- Saturday, October 10th 10:30-2:30pm

Workshop Registration Fee: \$10 per person

Workshop Gospel Concert
Sunday, October 11, 2026 at
3:00pm

Union Baptist Church
405 W. 7th Street
Cincinnati, OH 45203
Rev. Dr. Orlando B. Yates, Pastor

Jay Bailey
Union Baptist Church
Minister of Music

Union Baptist Church is Invited to Historic Mount Carmel Church - 10/25/2026

Union is invited to Historic Mount Carmel Church on **Sunday, October 25, 2026 at 3:30 pm** for their 134th Church Anniversary (established in 1892). Pastor Orlando B. Yates will be delivering the message for the occasion.

The Deacons and Ushers are asked to serve; the Combined Choirs are to sing; the Deaconesses, Trustees and congregation are asked to be present. Reverend Dr. Ashton G. Allen is the Pastor. The church is located at 3101 Riverside Dr, Cincinnati, OH (45226).

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

***** Church Leader of the Year Recognition - October 30, 2026 *****

Congratulations to Pastor Orlando B. Yates for being selected as a **2026 Church Leader of the Year** by the Collective Empowerment Group – Cincinnati Chapter!

The annual event honors outstanding leaders, thriving businesses, and impactful ministries that contribute to economic empowerment and collective progress across Greater Cincinnati.

Collective Empowerment Group Inc.

Annual 2026 GALA

a Masquerade

MINISTRY & MARKETPLACE
AWARDS & FUNDRAISER



October
30

6 pm Cocktail
Reception &
Vendor Expo

7 pm Gala

Keynote Speaker
Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Johnson
Legacy Pastor
Eastern Star Church



Entertainment
P. Ann Entertainment



 **MANOR HOUSE**
7440 Mason Montgomery Rd
Cincinnati, Ohio 45040

Ready. Rooted. Rising!

REGISTER TODAY
[https://ceg2026gala.
eventbrite.com](https://ceg2026gala.eventbrite.com)



Emcees

Ashley Kirklen
WLWT Anchor

Warren Curry
Pastor & Realtor





Please see **Sis. Annette Bell (CEG Ambassador)** for additional information / tickets if needed.

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

Daylight saving time ends on Sunday, November 1, 2026, at 2:00 a.m. Clocks move backward by one hour to 1:00 a.m. local time. You gain an extra hour of sleep. Sunrises and sunsets happen one hour earlier, leading to darker evenings.



Annual Trunk O' Treat Harvest Festival

The Children's Ministry will be hosting its Fourth Annual Trunk O' Treat Harvest Festival immediately following morning worship on **Sunday, November 1, 2026**. Members are asked to sign up with Bro. Jeremy Yates to participate in decorating your vehicle trunks in Harvest themes and passing out candy and treats to the kids. We will be grilling out and bringing back fun games, fresh popcorn, music and more!

If members are willing and able to donate towards supplies, please contact Dr. Raven Spratley at your earliest convenience. All are welcome to stay after church to enjoy the festivities, even if you are not participating. This event will be publicized and made open to kids in the community, so please feel free to bring your kids, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, cousins and the neighbor's kids. All children are requested and welcome to dress in "HARVEST" themed costumes! There will be a special Children's Church service held during morning worship with time to dress in costumes following. **If there are any questions, please contact either Dr. Raven Spratley, Children's Ministry Leader or Bro. Jeremy Yates, Event Assistant.**

FAITH HOPE LOVE
UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
A Church on the Move for Christ Since 1831

**UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
CHILDREN'S MINISTRY**
Presents

**TRUNK
OR
TREAT**

Fall Harvest Party

TREATS • PRIZES • GAMES
ALL FREE!

..... SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 1, 2026
..... 1:30 PM

📍 **UNION'S PARKING LOT**
405 WEST 7TH STREET
CINCINNATI, OHIO 45203
FOR MORE INFORMATION: (513) 381-3858
WWW.UNION-BAPTIST.NET

Join us for a day of fun, fellowship and fall blessings!

A Church on the Move for Christ Since 1831

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)

The Union Baptist Church Health and Wellness Ministry thanks all our participants, speakers, and donors for our 30-Year Ministry Celebration. God bless all of you.

YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

30th ANNIVERSARY

Health & Wellness MINISTRY

30th Anniversary LUNCHEON

Celebrating 30 Years of Service, Health, and Wellness

SATURDAY JULY 11, 2026 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH
405 West 7th Street
Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

Special Presentation
BOOK SCHOLARSHIP PRESENTATION
Honoring and supporting the educational pursuits of deserving students through scholarship awards.

\$25 DONATION
SCAN TO DONATE

PINK & RED ATTIRE ENCOURAGED

GUEST SPEAKERS • FELLOWSHIP • DINING • RECOGNITION • SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

“Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.”
— 3 John 1:2

We look forward to celebrating with you!

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH | HEALTH & WELLNESS MINISTRY



Sis. Annette Bell, Health and Wellness Ministry Leader

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)



September is Home and Foreign Mission Emphasis Month

WORSHIP SERVICE AND OBSERVANCE HOLY COMMUNION: Sunday, September 6, 2026 at 10:45 am In-Person & Livestream on Facebook Live/YouTube

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY OBSERVED: Monday, September 7, 2026 (Church Office Closed)

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, September 13, 2026, Annual Grandparents / Senior Citizens Day, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, September 20, 2026, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday September 27, 2026, Annual Women's Laity Day Observed, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

A PRAYER FOR SEPTEMBER

Dear Lord, help me embrace September's gentle shift,
the golden leaves, the crisp air, each precious gift.
Teach me to cherish the harvest and the lessons it holds,
as autumn's beauty and grace unfold.
Guide my heart with purpose, my spirit anew,
to find peace in this season, drawn closer to you. Amen.

~~~Anonymous, Guideposts Devotional

### **October is Prayer and Family Emphasis Month**

**WORSHIP SERVICE AND OBSERVANCE OF HOLY COMMUNION AND USHERS RECOGNITION DAY:** Sunday, October 4, 2026, In-Person and Livestream on YouTube and Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.



**WORSHIP CELEBRATION AND OBSERVANCE OF ANNUAL CHOIRS DAY:** Sunday, October 11, 2026, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

**WORSHIP CELEBRATION:** Sunday, October 18, 2026, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook and YouTube at 10:45 a.m.

**WORSHIP CELEBRATION:** Sunday, October 25, 2026, In-Person and Livestream on Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.

**FOURTH QUARTER CHURCH CONFERENCE:** Thursday, October 29, 2026 in UBC Sanctuary at 6:00 p.m.

#### **A PRAYER FOR OCTOBER**

Heavenly Father, as October unfolds, teach us the  
art of release--like leaves, loosened, spinning toward  
rest. Help us see the quiet wisdom in their descent, the  
way endings prepare the earth for seeds unseen and  
farewell whispers of beginnings yet to come. May we  
walk this amber-lit path with open hands,  
gathering grace in the smallest moments--the drift of a feather,  
the hush of a forest and the steady gift of change. Amen.

~~~Anonymous, Guideposts Devotional

INFORMATION & ANNOUNCEMENTS (CONTINUED)



November is Thanksgiving & Community Awareness Emphasis Month

WORSHIP CELEBRATION AND HOLY COMMUNION: Sunday, November 1, 2026, In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, November 8, 2026, In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.

VETERAN'S DAY HOLIDAY OBSERVED: Wednesday, November 11, 2026 (Church Office Closed)

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, November 15, 2026, In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.

WORSHIP CELEBRATION AND ANNUAL HARVEST SUNDAY: Sunday, November 22, 2026, In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.

DISTRIBUTION DAY FOR HARVEST GIFTS TO PEOPLE IN NEED: Tuesday, November 24, 2026 at 12 p.m.

THANKSGIVING DAY OBSERVANCE WITH FAMILY: November 26-28, 2026 (Church Office Closed)

WORSHIP CELEBRATION: Sunday, November 29, 2026, In-Person and Streaming on Facebook Live at 10:45 a.m.

A Prayer for November

Dear Lord, thank You for the blessings that fill each day--the light of morning, the food on our table, and the love we share.

Teach us to notice the small gifts often overlooked.

May we show our thanks through simple acts of care and generosity, honoring the many

ways you provide. Amen. ~~~*Anonymous, Guideposts Devotional*

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.