



Welcome!

UNION BAPTIST CHURCH OF SWISSVALE

“Glorifying God, Healing Lives, and Inspiring Hope”



2117 Collingwood Avenue

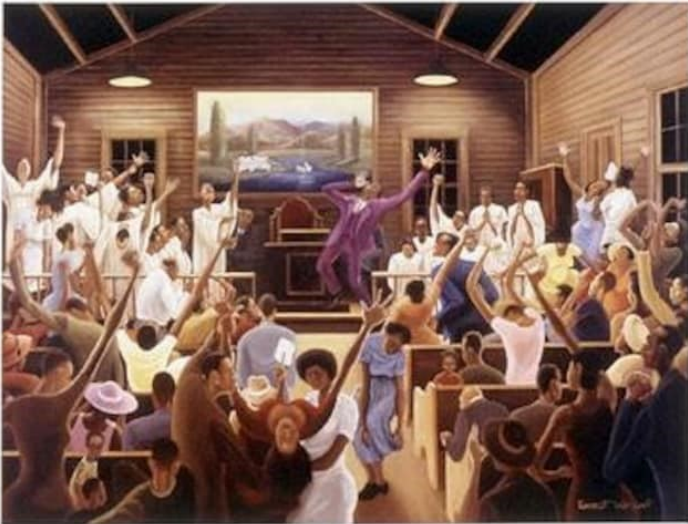
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15218-2525

www.unionbaptistpgh.org

412-271-3900

Rev. Jacquelyn M. Lewis, Interim Senior Pastor

Sunday, April 14, 2024



“I am the door: by me if any man enter in, he shall be saved, and shall go in and out, and find pasture.” - John 10:9 KJV

"I was glad when they said unto me, Let us go into the house of the Lord."

Psalm 122:1

Order of Worship

10:00 A.M.

April 14, 2024

Celebrating 103 Years of Ministry

Call to Worship.....*Dea. Donna McClendon*

Prayer of Invocation

Scripture Reading

Praise and Worship *UBC Voices of Praise*

Welcome *Min. Les A. Scales*

Announcements

Church Anniversary Update *Sis. Roberta Williams*

Church Administrator Retirement

Offering Appeal

Congregational Prayer *Min. Les A. Scales*

Sermonic Selection..... *UBC Music Workshop*

Sermon *Rev. Jacquelyn M. Lewis*

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

Song of Invitation

Benediction

Remember to whisper a prayer for those who are sick; those who are shut in; those who are bound, broken-hearted, or in prison; those who are bereaved; and those who are lost . . . “The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.” (James 5:16)

- Reverend Ruth Jeffries
- Deacon Rubell Thompson
- Elizabeth “Betty” Shaw Davis
- Yardley Bentley-King
- Kathleen Cannady-Schley
- Norman Carey
- Juanita Connor
- Tyrone Day
- Lillian Fletcher
- Krystal Fowler
- Rosalie Green
- Pat Kelly
- Samuel Lawrence
- Audrey Nesby
- Josie Nevels
- Deborah Oliver
- Carolyn Rhodes
- Eugene Turner
- Darren West
- Dorothy White

APRIL/MAY/ JUNE BIRTHDAYS

April 1

*Marlana Bailey-Eboh
Jaysha Miles*

April 3

Linda Wade

April 4

Kathleen Cannady-Schley

April 16

Darren West

April 17

*Danielle Clanagan
Charlene Grigsby*

Apr 20

Riechelle Griffith

April 21

Shaquail Artis

April 24

*Donna Ford
Audrey Nesby*

April 25

Minister Linda Williams

April 27

Virginia Thomas

April 29

Julian Batte

May 7

*Tyrone Day
Taunya Jeffries*

May 15

Deacon Eric Williams

May 16

Leland Scales

May 17

*Sherrse Gaines
May 24
Judy Brown
Shatara Murphy*

May 26

Dolly Richardson

May 28

Trina Perkins

June 1

Minister Rodney H. Smith, Sr.

June 2

Jeffrey Griffith

June 3

Moey Sanders

June 7

Sina Lawson

June 8

*Amber Sanders
Dennis Wilson*

June 10

*Gwendolyn Armbruster
Minister Les A. Scales*

June 14

*Tamara Bey
Charlene Grant*

June 16

Tonya Warren

June 19

Tiffany Hatcher-Scales

June 25

Lillian Fletcher

June 27



If you need a ride to church on Sunday, call the Transportation Ministry voicemail no later than 6:00 P.M. on Saturday evening at 412-440-6908 and leave your pickup information and telephone number. Please note that the driver is only authorized to drop you off at the same location where you were picked up. No exceptions, please.

The UBC Nursery and the Children's Church are open in the UBC Annex. Additional volunteers are always welcome. Please contact Sis. Kathy Chamberlain (412-377-9213) or the Church Office (412-271-3900) for more information about our Children's Ministries and details on how you can make a difference in the lives of our young.



Church Anniversary - A "Love Feast" is being held on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at the Rankin Christian Center from 5:00 - 7:30 P.M. Sign up in the Vestibule and indicate if a person is under 12 years old. Don't forget your Anniversary Love Offering. (Suggested \$104 per family, \$52 per single, but all amounts are accepted.) You can give online using

the Subsplash app, but if you give by envelope, please use the blue Anniversary envelopes. The funds raised will go towards the Agnes Street retaining wall replacement and the Anniversary Celebration.

MONDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY - There is no Bible Study tomorrow. We are on a break before we begin our next study. Our studies are free and you don't have to buy a book. There is no need to leave home. You can use your computer, your tablet, or your smartphone. The Zoom ID is 940-338-744.



**PASTORAL
SEARCH
COMMITTEE**

Did you know that you can now contact the UBC Pastoral Search committee easily through the UBC (Subsplash) app? Simply open the app and go to the "Pastor Search" tab. There you can leave a message, ask a question, or make a comment. If you leave your E-mail address, the Pastoral Search Committee will respond to you directly. Give it a try. We'd love to hear from you!



The Prison Ministry is looking for new members who have a desire to minister to those who are incarcerated and their families. We are looking for those who want to go into the jail and those who do not want to go into the jail. Meetings are held every fourth Saturday of the month. If you are interested in joining or would like more information about what we do, please contact Sis. Lacy Scales Bland (412-498-9286).

Join The Choir! - If you love to sing and want to share your gift, the Worship and Celebration Ministry invites you to become a member of the UBC Mass Choir. If you are interested, please contact Min. Charles Sledge, any member of the Worship and Celebration Ministry Team, or show up for a rehearsal on the first and third Thursdays at 7:00 P.M. or on Saturdays at 10:00 A.M. You may also contact the Church Office (412-271-3900).



UBC's Transportation Ministry is seeking to expand its pool of minibus drivers. If you have a good driving record and you are interested in becoming a Ministry driver, please contact a Trustee or call the Church Office (412-271-3900) for more information. This is a paid position.

Men! Early Bird registration for **ManUp 2024 on June 8th is open.**

There is a sign up sheet in the Vestibule.

Contact Min. Rodney H. Smith, Bro.

Jerry W. Horn, or the Church Office (412-271-3900) for details.



S.H.O.U.T. Women's Retreat—June 28 - 30, 2024

at the Laurelville Retreat Center. The cost is \$200 per person and includes lodging and meals.

There is a \$50 deposit with the final payment due on May 31, 2024. The Rev. A. Marie Walker is the key-

note speaker. A sign up sheet is located in the Vestibule.

careforyou Tuesday! Join us for fun, fitness, and fellowship each Tuesday at 7:00 P.M. Grab a friend and let's work out together - all fitness levels are welcome! www.c4ufitness.com.



Sermon Notes



Waves of Glory - The Worship and Celebration Creative Arts Ministry is looking for children and youth who are interested in learning how to worship the Lord through flagging and dancing. Romans 12:1 asks us “. . . *to offer our bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God - this is our true and proper worship.*” If you are interested in participating in this ministry, please contact Sis. May Pinnick at 412-969-1278 or Min. Danel Payne at 412-657-5680.

The Senior Ministry is sponsoring a trip to Lancaster, PA on October 11, 2024 to see the Sight and Sound production of “Daniel.” The \$250 per person includes transportation, the performance, dinner, gratuities, taxes, and fees. A payment plan is available. A non-refundable deposit is due May 7, 2024 and the final payment is due September 14, 2024. Sign up now in the Vestibule.



UNION BAPTIST CHURCH OF SWISSVALE WILL HOST A

COMMUNITY BAPTISM

SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024 @ 10:00 A.M.

MEET US FOR A SPIRITED WORSHIP SERVICE

SIGN UP TO BE BAPTIZED IF:

You are a Christian, but have never been baptized

You were baptized as a baby, you do not remember if you were baptized or you did not know what it meant when you were baptized

You recently accepted Jesus as your Lord and Savior, but there was no opportunity to be baptized

You have never committed your life to Jesus, and you want to become a disciple of Jesus now!

You would like to publicly rededicate your life back to Jesus

You do not have to become a church member to give your life to Christ and be baptized!

JESUS IS CALLING!

“When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do? Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” - Acts 2:37-39

CALL CHURCH OFFICE AT 412-271-3900 BY APRIL 18TH IF INTERESTED

THE PURPLE PARTY

A SOBER CELEBRATION

PRESENTING SPONSOR: ROBERT LEVIN AND DR. KERRY BRON

POWER

The Pennsylvania Organization of Women in Early Recovery (POWER) is pleased to give this year's Seeds of Hope Award to the Union Baptist Church of Swissvale for its years of dedicated volunteer help to the women we serve. The award will be presented at our annual fund raising event, the Purple Party, on Thursday, May 23, 2024, starting at 6:00 P.M. at Rockwell Park in Point Breeze.

Purple is the color of recovery from addiction, and the Purple Party is a celebration of those who are in recovery and those who support them. Tickets for this event are \$60. The reservation deadline is May 13, 2024.

If you cannot go to the event, we hope you can be there when POWER CEO Rosa Davis presents the award again at Union Baptist's 10:00 A.M. worship service on Sunday, May 26, 2024.

Thank you to everyone at Union Baptist who care about women who are overcoming the disease of addiction! Other ways to support this event include ads that will be shown on screens at the event and start at \$125 and should be submitted prior to May 1, 2024. Sponsorships begin at \$1,000 and welcome anytime. For more information, visit www.power-recovery.com.

Love **GOD**

With All Your
Heart
Soul
Mind
Strength

Love
ONE ANOTHER

John 13:34-35

Love **PEOPLE**

Love
Your
Neighbor
As Yourself

The Love Feast

The Love Feast, also known as the Agape Meal, is a Christian fellowship gathering that goes back to the communal meals shared by Jesus with His disciples during His ministry. *It beautifully expresses the koinonia (fellowship)—the sense of community, sharing, and fellowship—enjoyed by the family of Christ.*

The early church had times of food and fellowship much as we do today, and it seems that these times were called "Love Feasts." Eating together is mentioned in **1 Corinthians 11:21** and **2 Peter 2:13**. In **Jude 1:12**, the meals are specifically called "Love Feasts"—The KJV says "feasts of charity" in **Jude 1:12**; the NLT has "fellowship meals"; most other translations put "Love Feasts." The practice of having Love Feast was common among Christians in Rome.

Interestingly, the actual term Love Feasts is absent from the original language of Jude 1:12. The word Jude uses is *agapais*, the plural of *agape*. The Love Feast seems to have been held in association with the **Lord's Supper**, according to **1 Corinthians 11** (although that passage never mentions "Love Feasts" by that name). Most likely, the Love Feast was a shared or communal meal somewhat like a potluck in present-day churches. Church members would bring food; some would bring a greater supply and in that way provided for the needy (see Acts 6:1). The body of Christ showed its love at the Love Feasts. At some point, as the church was gathered, they would observe the ordinance of communion.

The breaking of bread in *Acts 20:7* could allude to a Love Feast (see also *Acts 2:42*), although *Jude 1:12* is the only place in Scripture where a Love Feast is explicitly mentioned.

Although its origins in the early church are closely interconnected with the origins of the Lord's Supper, the two services became quite distinct and should not be confused with each other. While the Lord's Supper has been practically universal among Christians throughout church history, the Love Feast has appeared only at certain times and among certain denominations.

The modern history of the Love Feast began when Count Zinzendorf and the Moravians in Germany introduced a service of sharing food, prayer, religious conversation, and hymns in 1727. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist Church first experienced it among the Moravians in Savannah, Georgia, ten years later.

It was begun and ended with thanksgiving and prayer, and celebrated in so decent and solemn a manner as a Christian of the apostolic age would have allowed to be worthy of Christ." It quickly became a feature of the Evangelical Revival and a regular part of Methodist society meetings in Great Britain and throughout the English-speaking world. As Methodists immigrated to North America, they made Love Feasts an important part of early American Methodism.

While Love Feasts became less frequent in the years that followed, they continued to be held in some places; and in recent years the Love Feast has been revived. Love Feasts have often been held at Annual Conferences and Charge Conferences, where people testify on what God has been doing in their lives and on the hope and trust they place in God for the future. The Love Feast is also an important part of the practice of Covenant Discipleship groups. Christmas, New Year's Eve or Day, the weekdays of Holy Week, and the Day of Pentecost are also fitting occasions for a Love Feast. A Love Feast may also be held during a congregational supper.

The Love Feast has often been held on occasions when the celebration of the Lord's Supper would be inappropriate—where

there is no one present authorized to administer the Sacrament, when persons of different denominations are present who do not feel free to take Holy Communion together, when there is a desire for a service more informal and spontaneous than the communion ritual, or at a full meal or some other setting to which it would be difficult to adapt the Lord's Supper.

The Love Feast is most naturally held around a table or with people seated in a circle; but it is possible to hold it with people seated in rows. A church sanctuary, fellowship hall, or home is an appropriate location for a Love Feast. One of the advantages of the Love Feast is that **any Christian** may conduct it. Congregational participation and leadership are usually extensive and important, especially involving children.

Testimonies and praise are the focal point in most Love Feasts.

Testimonies may include personal witness to God's grace or accounts of what God has been doing in the lives of others. Praise may take the form of hymns, songs, choruses, or spoken exclamations and may vary from the relative formality of an opening and closing hymn to spontaneous calling out of requests and singing as the Spirit moves. Sometimes the leader guides those present alternating spontaneous singing and sharing in free and familiar conversation for as long as the Spirit moves. John Wesley said that all the above be done decently and in order.

Prayer is vital to a Love Feast. A fixed form of prayer may be used, especially something like the Lord's Prayer or Be present at our table, Lord, that is familiar to the people. Spontaneous prayer requests and prayers may come from the people.

Scripture is also important. There may be scripture readings, or people may quote Scripture spontaneously as the Spirit moves. There may be a sermon, an exhortation, or an address; but it should be informal and consist of the leader's adding personal witness to what spontaneously comes from the congregation.

Most Love Feasts include the sharing of food. It is customary not to use communion bread, wine, or grape juice because to do so might confuse the Love Feast with the Lord's Supper. The bread may be a loaf of ordinary bread, crackers, rolls, or a sweet bread baked especially for this service. If a loaf of bread, it may be broken in two

or more pieces and then passed from hand to hand as each person breaks off a piece.

Crackers, rolls, or slices of bread may be passed in a basket. The beverage has usually been water, but other beverages such as lemonade, tea, or coffee have been used. Early Methodists commonly passed a loving cup with two handles from person to person, but later the water was served in individual glasses. The food is served quietly without interrupting the service.

The Love Feast may also be followed by a full meal, in which case people or families may bring dishes of food for all to share. During the meal there may be informal conversation in Christian fellowship, or the leader may direct the conversation by suggesting matters of mutual concern, or there may be spontaneous witnessing and praise. If there is food left over, it may be taken as an expression of love to people not present.

Here at Union, we are going to have a Love Feast in a way that is unique and suits us. The ministers and deacons as well as ministry leaders will be moving around from chair-to-chair, eating, and chatting and fellowshiping with other church members. We will follow the directions of the 104th Anniversary Members.

104th Anniversary Love Feast

Saturday, April 27, 2024

5:30 - 7:30 P.M.

Rankin Christian Center

Sign Up in Vestibule or Contact Church Office

(Please indicate if the attender is under 12 years old.)



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1920 - 2024