

WE COME INTO THIS HOUSE TO WORSHIP HIM

Order of Service
Sunday, July 25, 2021

Morning

Call to Worship	Frank Barnes
Song Leader	Robert Cottingham
Meditation/Scripture	Amos Hicks
Prayer	Nathaniel Wright, Sr.
Sermon	Terrance McClain
Communion	Donald Nelson
Offering/Announcements	Frank Barnes
Benediction	Raymond Knight
Response Facilitator	Amos Hicks

Website
univ1885coc.org

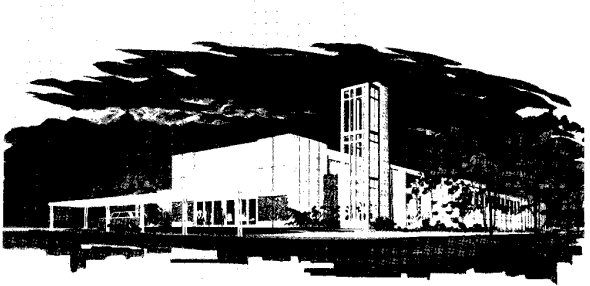
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ucoc1@sbcglobal.net

Office
(216) 421-0233

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(216) 421-1640

Office Hours
Tuesday - Friday
10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

University Church of Christ
1885 East 89th Street - Cleveland, Ohio 44106



Minister
Terrance McClain, PhD

Elders
Frank Barnes
Donald Nelson
Gregory Shields

Deacons
Freddie Gibson
Anthony Slade

INFORMER

July 25, 2021

21 - 30

Message from the Minister

You Are Not Enslaved to Your Past
Ephesians 4:32 - 5:2

Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Like the apostle Paul, **“I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ” (1 Cor. 1:3).** So many Christians don’t believe that they have the ability or power to change. Christianity means change is possible. Deep, fundamental change. It is possible to become tender-hearted when once you were callous and insensitive. It is possible to stop being dominated by bitterness and anger. It is possible to become a loving person no matter what your background has been.

(continued on next page)

SICK AND SHUT-IN		
Cornelia Swing 4818 East 86th St. Garfield Hts., Ohio, 44125 (216) 341-3287	Patricia Gaines 10 N. Strawberry Lane Moreland Hills, Ohio, 44022 (216) 309-4977	Willie Blackwell Sr. 10205 Nelson Ave. You Are Not Enslaved to Your Past Ephesians 4:32 - 5:2
Julia Hicks Menorah Park Euclid Pavilion - E110 27100 Cedar Road Beachwood, Ohio, 44122 (216) 372-8382	Melvin Flowers 2065 Lee Blvd. East Cleveland, Ohio, 44112 (216) 256-9215	Greetings in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Prayer List:

Kelynn Brewer, Pamela Eley & family, Gail Evans & family, Alycia Shields & family, Michael Edmondson, Sandra Lawrence & family, Terrance & Linda McClain, Charles Draper & family, Sabrina Evans & family, George McCall, Jill King & family, Anthony Slade & family, Emma Brown, daughter (Vonita Brown) grandson (Douglas Brown) & great grandsons (Damarien Brown & Tallis Moorner), Linda Knight, Brenda Taylor-Hines & Yvonne Taylor & family, Robert Cottingham & family, Clyde Gholston’s sister (Thomasene Maddox), Briana Warner & family, Maxine Shell, Renee Peavey & her daughter (Curnesha Daniely), Doris Smith, Nicole Byrd, Sharon Foster, Edward & Betty Harden & family, Willie Blackwell Sr. & family, Mildred Jones-Brown, Cornelia Swing & family, Hatcher family, Marilyn Steward, Harold Martin, Devon Montgomery & family, Sheree Warner & family, Julia Hicks, Amos Hicks, Theresa Brown & family, Diane Patterson, Mary Eley & family, Mary Brown, Phyllis DuVall, Donell Nelson, Paul Nelson, Andrea Williams, Ruth Wade’s sister (Hattie Bridges), Kyarra Winfree, Carlton Pope, Manuel Beeman & family, Robert Jackson & family, Clarence Edmondson & family, Denise Draper & father (James Lacy), Peggy Jackson & family, Nate & Marva Wright & family, Gerald Anderson & family, Murphy family, Beverly Hood & family, Kathy Pope, Pamela Eley’s niece (Asionna Eley), Patricia Gaines & family, Deborah Gibson & family, Annie Murrell & family, Frank Barnes & family, Sonseeahray Stewart and her sister Sharlon Golden and for Ochalaya Parks.

Responses: Denise Draper, Sabrina Evans, Linda Knight, Sandra Lawrence and Ruth Wade.

WHAT MUST I DO TO BE SAVED?	Our Weekly Calendar*	WHAT MUST I DO TO KEEP FROM FALLING?
HEAR Acts 15:7	Sunday* Morning Worship..... 11:00 a.m.	READ YOUR BIBLE DAILY 2 Timothy 2:15
BELIEVE Mark 16:15-16	Wednesday* General Bible Class 7:00 p.m.	ADD CHRISTIAN GRACE 2 Peter 1:5-11
REPENT Acts 17:30	*See page 3 for details regarding phone & online access.	ATTEND SERVICE Hebrews 10:25
CONFESS Romans 10:9-10		
BE BAPTIZED Acts 2:38		

Welcome Visitors!

You are our honored guest. It is our sincere hope that you will be spiritually edified by the worship service today. Please don’t hesitate to ask if you have any questions about our worship services.

Message from the Minister

You Are Not Enslaved to Your Past

Ephesians 4:32-5:2

(continued)

The Bible assumes that God is the decisive factor in making us what we should be. With wonderful bluntness the Bible says, “**Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamor, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice: And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted...**” (Eph. 4:31-32). It does not say, “If you can...” Or: “If your parents were tender-hearted to you...” Or: “If you weren’t terribly wronged or abused...” It says, “**Be...tender-hearted.**” This is wonderfully freeing. It frees us from the terrible fatalism that says change is impossible. It frees us from mechanistic views that make our backgrounds our destinies. God’s commands always come with freeing, life-changing truth to believe. For example: “**And be ye kind one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another [that’s the command], even as God for Christ’s sake hath forgiven you [that’s the life-changing truth]. Be ye therefore followers of God [command], as dear children [life-changing truth]; And walk in love [command], as Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us, an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savor [life-changing truth]**” (Eph. 4:32-5:2).

There is life-changing power in the truths of this text. Let’s consider them, as we pray for that power to change us.

1. **God adopted us as His children.** We have a new Father and a new family. This breaks the fatalistic forces of our “family of origin.” **Hebrews 12:10-11** reminds us that our Heavenly Father disciplines us for our good, so that we can share in His holiness. In contrasting our earthly fathers with our Heavenly Father, one might say, “They did this...but He does that.” This is a life-changing truth. We can know it, believe it, and be changed by it, no matter what kind of earthly fathers we have. God reveals Himself in His word to revolutionize our thinking about His fatherhood.
2. **God loves us as His children.** We are loved as “dear children.” The command to imitate the love of God does not hang in the air; it comes with power: “**Be ye therefore followers [imitators] of God, as dear children**” (Eph. 5:1). “Love!” is the command and “being loved” is the power.
3. **God has forgiven us in Christ.** Be tender-hearted and forgiving just as God in Christ forgave you. What God did for us becomes the power to change. He forgave us. That opens a relationship of love and a future of hope. And does not tender-heartedness flow from a heart overwhelmed with being loved undeservedly? The command to be tender-hearted has more to do with what God has done for us than what our mother or father did to us. We are not enslaved to our past.
4. **Christ loved you and gave Himself up for you. “And walk in love, as Christ also hath loved us”** (Eph. 5:2). The command to walk in love comes with life-changing truth that we are loved. At the moment when there is a chance to love, and some voice says, “You are not a loving person,” you can say, “Christ’s love for me makes me a new kind of person. His command to love is just as surely possible for me as His promise of love is true for me.”

Yes, change is possible. Pursue it until you are perfected at the coming of Christ. And to you, my University church of Christ family, Remember that our *Mission and Vision* statement here at the University Church of Christ includes you! We are *"A New Testament church seeking to evangelize, starting with the central core of Greater Cleveland. We will use our unique gifts and opportunities to engage with the community to bring souls to Jesus, develop and equip them for a 21st century ministry."* always remember that *God loves you, Jesus died for you, I love you, and I am your servant for Jesus’ sake!*

Yours because of Calvary,
Terrance R. McClain, PhD,
Minister

1 Peter 1:13-18 (KJV)

LEADER: Wherefore gird up the loins of your mind, be sober, and hope to the end for the grace that is to be brought unto you at the revelation of Jesus Christ;

CONGREGATION: As obedient children, not fashioning yourselves according to the former lusts in your ignorance:

LEADER: But as he which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation;

CONGREGATION: Because it is written, Be ye holy; for I am holy.

LEADER: And if ye call on the Father, who without respect of persons judgeth according to every man's work, pass the time of your sojourning *here* in fear:

TOGETHER: Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, *as* silver and gold, from your vain conversation *received* by tradition from your fathers;



To access Sunday morning worship (11:00 am) and Wednesday evening Bible study (7:00 pm):

- 1) Tune into FACEBOOK live stream at **Terrance Richard McClain**
- 2) Via teleconference:
Dial 1-717-275-8940 or 1-712-832-8330 Access code 244-4066.
- 3) The worship service will also be available on WWW.YOUTUBE.COM (after 2pm)

Search: **University Church of Christ Cleveland**

You can drop by the church building and pick up your communion set, bulletin and drop off your contribution Tuesday - Friday, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm. Please call the church office at (216) 421-0233 if you have any questions.

- ♦ **Remember to call or email the church office if you’d like to access our Thursday 7pm Bible study via Zoom. The SUMMER quarter book may be picked-up at the church building during office hours. To access this bible study via phone, dial 301-715-8592, ID: 83840201778, Passcode: 855448**