



Union Baptist Church of Cincinnati
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A Kingdom-Focused Church

“Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age.”
Matthew 28:19-20 (NLT)

As we gather today for worship and praise on the 188th Anniversary of our beloved Union Baptist Church, my heart overflows with love, excitement and thankfulness to God. Since July 21, 1831, members of our church family have been preaching, teaching, sharing and spreading the Good News of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. For we believe that Jesus Christ is the Only Savior, Master, Life and Hope of all who put their trust in Him.

Today we can celebrate this wonderful ministry that Jesus Christ has left for us to do in His kingdom agenda; **Go Make Disciples**. Please note that ministry does not supersede evangelism but should always be part of a kingdom-focused church. Christian compassion demands that we minister to everyone regardless of race, religion, abilities, or circumstances. We must meet needs not as we see fit but in response to Jesus’ teaching and example. As He reminded His disciples in Mark 14:7, **“You always have the poor with you, and you can do good for them whenever you want, but you do not always have Me.”**

As the Body of Christ, we *cannot* minister in isolation. Leaders who describe the church as “my ministry” expose a dangerous misunderstanding of the nature of ministry. None of us owns the ministry with which God has blessed us. We are only stewards of it. But working together with other believers and through the power of the Holy Spirit, we can meet the needs of people, both inside and outside the church. **And the church will grow and prosper as it does the wonderful work of the Lord.**

Thank you for your stewardship, your love, and especially your support; but most importantly, thank you for your faithfulness. May God continue to bless you and your family in all that you do for Christ as, **“One generation shall praise Your works to another, And shall declare Your mighty acts.”** Psalm 145:4 (NKJV). Amen.

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20

